

## Christopher may visit Middle East

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State-designate Warren Christopher is considering a trip to the Middle East soon after he takes office to resolve the crisis in Arab-Israeli peace talks, government sources said. The suggestion was made to the Clinton transition team by Assistant Secretary of State Edward Djerejian, said one source who spoke on condition of anonymity. The source said Mr. Djerejian is concerned that the talks have stalled because of the U.S. presidential transition and could be derailed by a host of Arab-Israeli violence. A second source, also requesting anonymity, said Mr. Djerejian recommended that Mr. Christopher travel to the Middle East before the next round of talks, which has not yet been scheduled but which Israel would like to take place in the first half of February. The eighth round of the talks ended here last month without a date set for the next one — in part because both sides wanted to wait until after the Jan. 20 inauguration and in part because Israel expelled more than 400 Palestinians to Lebanon. The transition team is considering a Christopher trip but has not taken concrete decisions because it's busy with many international issues, said one source.



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## Turkey seeks way to empty pipeline

ANKARA (R) — Turkey is working on ways to empty Iraqi oil trapped in a pipeline on its territory to prevent the crude corroding the pipes, government sources said Friday. "The pipelines should be emptied to prevent damage," a senior official said. He said the government was studying options on how to proceed, but declined to elaborate. A report in the mass-circulation daily Hurriyet Monday quoted Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel as saying that Turkey was carrying out a study to ask the United Nations to let Ankara use the Iraqi oil in the pipeline. "The Iraqis are asking us to buy the oil. We will pay for some of it, and give them medicine, but some of the proceeds will be accounted for their debts," Mr. Demirel told the newspaper.

## Islamic group claims for Egypt attack

CAIRO (R) — A telephone caller who said he spoke for Egypt's most active Muslim militant group claimed responsibility Friday for a bomb attack on a tourist bus in Cairo. The attack on Thursday night, in which police said nobody was hurt, was the first in the capital since Muslim militants began a campaign against tourism last October, aiming to damage an industry vital to Egypt's struggling economy. The Interior Ministry said the bomb shattered the back window of the bus as it was waiting at a traffic light on a main road near the Pyramids of Giza. Egypt's top tourist attraction. A police spokesman said a few Germans were on board. The caller told a news organization that Al Gama'a Al Islamiya (Islamic Group) carried out the bombing "as part of a policy of targeting tourism but not tourists."

## Curfew imposed on part of riot-hit Bombay

BOMBAY (R) — At least four people were burnt to death by rioters as renewed Hindu-Muslim clashes flared in Bombay Friday, taking the death toll in three days of scattered violence to 24, according to police sources. Thirteen people were stabbed to death in riots in several parts of Bombay as rival groups clashed with guns, swords, stones and acid bombs. Some reports put the death toll at more than 30. Communal tension has been simmering in Bombay since last month's destruction of a mosque by Hindu zealots in northern India. The violence claimed over 1,100 lives, of which 202 were in Bombay.

## Kuwait appoints Sabah as U.S. envoy

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has appointed university teacher and government planner Sheikh Mohammed Sabah Al Sabah to the key post of ambassador to the United States. Al Sabah newspaper reported Friday. Sheikh Mohammed, a member of the emirate's ruling Al Sabah family, teaches in the economics faculty of the University of Kuwait and belongs to a high-level government planning body, the newspaper said. He replaces Sheikh Saud Nasser Al Sabah, who became information minister in October.

## Pakistani and Saudi beheaded

RIYADH (AP) — A Pakistani was beheaded Friday for smuggling heroin while a Saudi was executed the same way for sexually abusing a boy and killing him, the Interior Ministry announced. The beheading of Pakistani Zulfikar Rasoul Bakhs took place in the northwestern city of Tabuk after he was convicted by an Islamic court, the ministry said. The Saudi, Talal Ben Muhammad Al Dossari, had lured a young boy to the rooftop of a house where he sexually abused him and then threw him into the street, the announcement said. Dossari was beheaded in the eastern city of Dammam on the Gulf coast.

## Combined agency dispatches

THE UNITED STATES watched from the sky Friday to see whether Iraq meets the deadline for withdrawing anti-aircraft missiles from southern Iraq. One congressional leader said the two countries appeared to be "on a collision course."

Baghdad continued its tough stance, saying it "will not heed" the ultimatum that gave Iraq until 2215 GMT to remove the weapons from the "no-fly" zone or risk retaliation.

Stormy weather frustrated U.S. efforts Friday to check the location of the Iraqi missiles. A U.S. intelligence official said it was still unclear where the missiles were — and whether they had been moved from the "no-fly" zone, as demanded by the allies.

The United States, Britain and France in August banned Iraqi military flights below the 32nd Parallel in an ostensible bid to protect Shiite dissidents who live in the southern third of the country.

As the clock ticked down on the ultimatum, President George Bush travelled to Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) headquarters Friday for a briefing on the Iraqi situation.

"It looks like we're on a collision course," Congressman Lee Hamilton, chairman of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee, said Friday. Mr. Hamilton, interviewed on Fox Morning News, said the confrontation would be avoided, if, "in fact, (Iraq) is moving those missiles, not just moving them, but moving them north of the 32nd Parallel."

In Baghdad, Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz told an emergency cabinet session Friday that, "Iraq will not heed the West's ultimatum and will uphold its right to keep its air defence bases where they are."

"Should these bases be attacked, Iraq will certainly respond in kind to the aggression," the official Iraqi News Agency quoted Mr. Aziz as saying.

White House Press Secretary Martin Fitzwater, asked about Mr. Aziz's comments, said: "We don't want to get into a dialogue with them. They know our position. We'll have to wait and see." As the deadline approached, the Iraqi National Assembly was called into session by Speaker Saadi Mohdi Saleh.

It approved the decision by President Saddam Hussein to defy the allies' demand, according to the Iraqi News Agency.

The agency said the cabinet convened under Prime Minister Mohammad Hamza Al Zubaidi to study "the desperate U.S. attempt to infringe on Iraqi sovereignty and independence."

It said the cabinet praised "the political leadership's decision to confront the new, blatant American aggression which is doomed to failure, thanks to the unity and steadfastness of our people and armed forces under our blessed leader Saddam Hussein."

Earlier, the government newspaper Al Thawra said the ultimatum was a "cheeky and hysterical threat."

It said: "Iraq will continue to practice full sovereignty over all its territory and safeguard with all possible means its right to self-defence against threats from Iran or the allies."

The editorial said the allies "have become hysterical after failing to break Iraq up by war." The Gulf war and "subsequent plots by the allies ... have made Iraq reach the highest levels of readiness and gave it the experience to confront aggressors."

"More than ever before, Iraq's heroic army is ready for any potential showdown," Al Thawra said.

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## Iraq bars U.N. flights

IRAQ HAS barred United Nations planes from flying into Habbaniyah airport, near Baghdad, preventing U.N. weapons destruction teams from entering the country, a senior U.N. official said.

Tim Trevan, spokesman of the U.N. Special Commission (UNSCOM) in charge of scrapping Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, said the Iraqi flight-ban order was received in writing at the U.N. office in Baghdad late Thursday.

"The implication is that we are no longer allowed to use our own aircraft to fly into Iraq, and that if we wish to use aircraft, we must use Iraqi chartered aircraft and not U.N. aircraft," he said.

U.N. planes do not have to overfly the allied-imposed air exclusion zone to reach Habbaniyah, west of Baghdad.

Mr. Trevan said the ban was "effective forthwith, and indefinitely."

The reason given by Iraq for the ban was that, "basically, if they are not allowed to use their own aircraft, we are not allowed to use ours."

## Jordan, Iraq in oil accord

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Senior officials Friday confirmed that Jordan and Baghdad had renewed an annual agreement under which the Kingdom would continue to get around half of its oil needs free and the rest at preferential prices from Iraq.

The agreement was signed by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Ali Abul Ragheb and his Iraqi counterpart Osama Al Hitti during a visit Mr. Abul Ragheb paid to Iraq in mid-December, the officials said, confirming a report carried by Reuters on Thursday.

Jordan gets between 7,000 and 8,000 tonnes (50,000 to 55,000 barrels) of Iraqi crude oil per day trucked across the border from Iraq. In addition, the Kingdom also gets up to 800,000 tonnes of Iraqi fuel oil used for heating purposes, one of the officials said.

The new agreement, virtually unchanged from a previous accord, provides for Iraq to supply around half of Jordan's oil needs free of cost and the rest at around \$16.5 per barrel as opposed to the international price of around \$18, this official said. He indicated that there were other points stipulated in the agreement, but declined to say what they were or give details.

The international embargo slapped on Iraq following its invasion of Kuwait in August 1990 bans Iraqi oil exports, but Jordan continues to get Iraqi oil under a special exemption granted by the United Nations Security Council.

Food and medicine sales to Iraq are also exempt from the embargo.

Iraq has been supplying the bulk of Jordan's oil needs since the mid-80s; part of the supplies were in repayment of debts that Baghdad rung up with the Jordanian public as well as private sectors during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war.

Government-to-government debts stood at \$310 million on Aug. 2, 1990, the day Iraq invaded Kuwait. No details were available of the private sector debts.

According to Finance Minister Basal Jaraneh, the free Iraqi oil accounts for about 60 per cent of the expected foreign grants of JD150 million included in the 1993 budget.

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## Cold depression expected to fade

AMMAN (J.T.) — The effect of the depression which affected Jordan in the past two days will start to decrease gradually Saturday, according to the Department of Meteorology. The department expected scattered showers in all parts of the Kingdom, with snowfall possible in hilly areas with an elevation of more than 1,200 metres above sea level. These areas only include Ajloun and Al Sharah mountains. Snow started to fall on western Amman Friday evening and a thin layer of snow covered the ground. An official at the department, Abdul Baset Rabab'a, said he did not expect snowfall to continue in Amman because it was less than 1,100 metres in elevation. On Saturday, he said, the speed of the wind will drop gradually. Still it will remain cold, cloudy and rainy at times, he added. In the Gulf of Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy and there will be a chance for scattered showers of rain, Mr. Rabab'a said. The department, he said, expects a similar depression will affect Jordan on Monday bringing more rain to the Kingdom.



Some of the Palestinians expelled from the occupied territories and now stuck in southern Lebanon demonstrate with their bodies forming the number

799 — the Security Council resolution which calls on Israel to reverse the expulsions (AFP photo)

## Peres says U.N. pressure on Israel could scuttle peace talks

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Foreign Minister Shimon Peres told a United Nations special envoy Friday U.N. pressure on Israel to take back 415 Palestinians the Jewish state expelled to Lebanon could threaten the Middle East peace process.

"I told the U.N. envoy today 'let's say you insist, let's say you force us, you're endangering the peace process,'" Mr. Peres said.

The world body, which has condemned the Dec. 17 expulsion and demanded Israel allow the Palestinians return to their homes in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, has sent two envoys to meet Israeli leaders in two weeks.

"By wanting to solve the deportation problem you are liable to cause a halt in the peace process," Mr. Peres told army radio. Earlier, after meeting U.N. envoy Chinmaya Gharekhan, Mr. Peres said Israel stood firm on the

expulsion decision but wanted to avoid a clash with the United Nations.

Palestinians have said the expulsion could deal a deathblow to the U.S.-sponsored talks, which are in recess.

Mr. Peres said: "There is a danger that ... if the Security Council adopts extreme positions the Arabs will not allow themselves to be less extreme than the United Nations."

Chief Palestinian negotiator Haidar Abdul Shafi said Thursday he would refuse to attend fresh talks until Israel allows the evacuees to return.

Two other delegates backed Dr. Abdul Shafi's stance Friday.

"We would like to assert that we will not participate in any future round of negotiations before Israel complies with U.N. Security Council Resolution 799 and allows the return of the (expellees) to their homes," dele-

gates Ghassan Al Khatib and Samir Abdullah said in a joint statement.

Mr. Gharekhan said he welcomed Israel's decision Thursday to allow two Red Cross officials to visit the evacuees.

He said they would make the visit on Saturday since stormy weather prevented it Friday.

In a small concession, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin agreed Thursday to let the Red Cross visit the group, a step announced just before Mr. Gharekhan arrived to mediate the dispute.

The officials had been scheduled to fly Friday to the tent camp aboard a helicopter provided by the U.N. peacekeeping force in Lebanon. But Timor Goksel, spokesman for the force, said the visit was postponed Saturday because of heavy winds.

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## Brotherhood sweeps IAF polls to consolidate political grip

By Nermeen Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Muslim Brotherhood Friday consolidated its grip on the Islamic Action Front (IAF) by winning 13 of a 16-seat executive committee of the newly-licensed party throwing further into doubt the future of the movement's relations with the independent Islamists with whom they joined to form the coalition.

After two weeks of varying predictions over how the Brotherhood would fare in Friday's inter-party elections, particularly after a group of prominent Islamists left the party in protest against Brotherhood domination, the results of the elections clearly established that the movement decided not to accommodate the independents at its own expense.

The 120-member consultative council Friday elected the executive committee without meeting expectations that six of the influential committee's seats would go to the independents as a conciliatory move aimed at avoiding further split in the IAF ranks.

The results indicate a victory for the "hawks" among the Brotherhood, who allowed a free fall for the independents and moderates, according to observers.

The gesture of goodwill towards the independents that the moderates inside the movement advocated only materialised in the election of Abdul Aziz Shreideh, an independent who resides in Zarqa, and Ahmad Tansh, another independent from Irbid to the posts of deputy speaker and assistant.

Brotherhood member Farid Freij (a pharmacist from Mafrqa) was elected as the other assistant.

Friday's elections also confirmed Dr. Ishaq Farhan as leader of the IAF and voted in Abdul Majid Thneibat (Brotherhood deputy leader who is from Karak) as speaker of the consultative council.

According to sources close to the IAF, the independents who won in the elections were: Hassan Al Tal from Irbid, Abdul Bari Zawarreh from Zarqa and Zuhair Abul Ragheb from Amman. Mr. Abul Ragheb was among the 16 independent Islamists who signed a letter of resignation from the IAF only two weeks ago but decided to retract his resignation ahead of the elections. His selection to the executive committee was seen as a reward especially since he was in

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## Serbs raped 20,000 Muslim women— EC

GENEVA (R) — Bosnian-Serb soldiers have raped about 20,000 Muslim women as part of a campaign to terrorise enemy populations and drive them from their homes, according to a team of European Community (EC) investigators.

Their confidential report, obtained by Reuters Friday, also alleged that "many women, and more particularly children, may have died during or after rape."

Bosnian-Serb forces were using rape as a weapon of war to further their expansionist strategy in Bosnia-Herzegovina, according to the five-page report.

"The most reasoned estimate suggested to the delegation indicated a figure in the region of 20,000 victims," it said.

"Muslim women undoubtedly form the vast majority of rape victims," it added. "However, there are also disturbing reports of Croat and Serbian women

(being raped), as well as sexual abuse of men in detention camps."

The report said rapes were being committed in "particularly sadistic ways" to inflict maximum humiliation on the victims.

The investigators, led by former British diplomat Dame Anne Warburton, included former French Health Minister Simone Veil, now a prominent member of the European Parliament, as well as experts in forensic psychiatry and rape counselling.

Firsthand accounts indicated that a "repeated feature of Serbian attacks on Muslim towns and villages was the use of rape, or the threat of rape, as a weapon of war to force the population to leave their homes," the report said.

"The delegate saw examples of statements and documents from Serbian sources which very clearly put such actions in the context of an expansionist strategy,"

## Ghali vows to continue bid to end Libya crisis

CAIRO (AP) — Secretary-General Boutros Ghali pledged the United Nations Friday to continue contacts with Libya to resolve its crisis with the West. But when Dr. Ghali spoke at the end of a three-day visit to Egypt, two Libyan government-owned newspapers in Tripoli urged the country to quit both the United Nations and the Arab League.

During his visit to his hometown, Dr. Ghali met with both President Hosni Mubarak and Libyan Foreign Minister Montasser Al Zayat.

He and Mr. Mubarak met for a third time Friday to discuss issues including Libya's crisis with the West, which Egypt is trying to mediate.

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## U.S. university puts off W. Bank campus plan

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Intense Arab-American lobbying, Palestinian protests and State Department criticism have prompted an American university to delay plans to build a "campus branch" in a Jewish settlement in the occupied West Bank.

The University of New Haven (UNH) announced Wednesday that it was putting off the plan, originally scheduled to be launched in February, because of "heightened political tensions" in the Middle East.

The announcement, made by UNH President Lawrence J. DeNardis, came after strong pressure was applied by Arab-Americans represented by the Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), and numerous other organisations, and criticism from the State Department.

The New York Times quoted a State Department

official as saying that the UNH move to build a campus in the West Bank was "very unwise" and that it showed "little sensitivity for the ongoing peace process."

Among the opponents of the plan is Israeli Education Minister Shulamit Aloni, whose Meretz Bloc in the ruling coalition supports the creation of an independent Palestinian state in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Announcing the decision to delay the project, Mr. DeNardis hinted that the university, which has six campuses in Connecticut and runs undergraduate programmes in Russia and Cyprus, might move the site for its planned Middle East branch to somewhere else altogether.

The UNH was planning to open the campus in an Israeli settlement called Elkana in the occupied West Bank.

In what was also seen as an attempt to save face, Mr. DeNardis also said the Israeli

occupation authorities refused to grant approval for the project. And he promised "expanded contacts and Arab institutions and Palestinian and other interested groups," according to a press release from the Washington, D.C.-based ADC, which organised a letter writing campaign against the project.

The government of Labour leader Yitzhak Rabin which took power after defeating the hardline Likud in mid-1992 says it opposes settlement building in the occupied territories. But no senior official from the government has gone on record saying that it opposed the building of the UNH campus in the occupied territories.

The main reason cited by opponents of the project was the fact that the campus was to be set up in a settlement built by an occupier in an occupied territory in violation of the international conventions related to the rights of the occupied. No Palestinian was ever

consulted by the UNH on the project.

Although Mr. DeNardis and other university officials maintained that Palestinian students would also be welcome in the proposed campus, Israeli peace activists as well as Arab-Americans said all indications were that it would be an exclusive institution for Israelis.

"The only Arabs able to get into the university will be those who come to clean," Amiram Goldblum, a spokesman for the Israeli Peace Now movement, was quoted as saying by the New York Times.

ADC President Albert Mokheir welcomed the latest UNH move but said the ADC would continue its campaign to ensure that the project — which he said would tantamount to "subsidising apartheid" — is scrapped altogether.

"We are pleased that the University of New Haven has decided to delay the opening the campus and view it as a

partial victory," Mr. Mokheir said. "However, we will not be satisfied until the plans are abandoned altogether. ADC remained concerned that (the university's plans) will illegally and immorally contribute to settlement building."

According to George Hajjar, a second-generation Arab-American, the campus project "violates the Geneva Convention, the Hague Agreement, and U.S. policy."

Among the organisations that contributed to pressuring the UNH into its decision to delay the project were the Episcopal Church, the International Peace Union, the Maryknoll Peace and Justice Office, the Middle East Crisis Committee, the Middle East Justice Network, the Middle East Network of United Methodists, and the National Lawyers Guild as well as Bir Zeit University, a West Bank institution which has been repeatedly closed down by the Israeli occupation authorities.

## Arabs lone holdouts on pact banning chemical weapons

WASHINGTON (R) — Arab states seem set to be the sole holdouts next week when a landmark treaty banning production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons is opened for signing in Paris, a senior U.S. official said Thursday.

"All of the major countries of the world, with the exception of the Arabs, we think intend to sign the convention next week," said Donald Mahley, deputy assistant director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency for Multilateral Affairs.

The U.S. State Department said Thursday that Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger will sign the treaty, completed after 24 years of talks, with momentum from the end of both the Gulf war and the cold war.

A spokesman for the 21-member Arab League confirmed his group's members would withhold their signatures until Israel agrees to free the Middle East of all weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear arms.

"This is a package deal," Abdullah Speh, an Arab League spokesman in Washington, said in a telephone interview. "There should be no state allowed to have these sorts of weapons while other states do not."

Representatives of at least 115 nations, including China, Pakistan, Russia and North Korea — earlier considered possible holdouts — have now indicated they will sign the chemical weapons convention, Mr. Mahley said. Israel has also conveyed its intention to sign, he said.

Mr. Mahley spoke at a luncheon organised by the National Security News Service and New York University's Centre for War, Peace and the News Media.

Before ratifying the treaty, the Russians "of course" are going to lobby rich countries to help defray the cost of destroying the world's largest chemical weapons stockpile, about 40,000 tonnes, Mr. Mahley said.

He said China had indicated it was signing despite qualms that the treaty's provisions, among other things, could tax its commercial chemical industry under a highly intrusive inspection regime.

The treaty will enter into force 180 days after 65 states have ratified their signatures, but no earlier than January 1995. It will feature "the most intrusive verification regime that has ever been attempted in a multilateral arms control agreement, bar none," Mr. Mahley said.

Subject to both routine and challenge inspection will be government and private chemical plants, for instance.

The unusual two-year minimum delay before the treaty takes effect is to permit a new international organisation, based in the Hague, to establish procedures to monitor compliance.

Chemical weapons were used extensively in the 1980-88 Gulf war between Iran and Iraq. Iraq and Libya are among nations accused by the United States of harbouring secret chemical weapons programmes.

Iran is a leading proponent of the new treaty, which is expected to help it by dispelling suspicion about any purchases of so-called dual-use chemicals that have commercial as well as potential military applications.

Mr. Mahley said the United States would work through diplomatic channels to persuade Arab holdouts to change their minds.

The treaty will be left to the incoming Clinton administration to send to Congress for ratification since details of the inspection regime will not have been worked out before George Bush leaves office on Jan. 20, he added.

## Algerian military court sentences 19 men to death

ALGIERS (R) — An Algerian military court on Friday sentenced to death 19 men, most of them members of the armed forces, for setting up an armed group and conspiring against state interests, state radio said.

Only four of those given death sentences, normally carried out by firing squad, were in custody for the 12-day trial of 79 people including just eight civilians.

The trial was held behind closed doors at Bechar, a town in the Sahara Desert 750 kilometres southwest of Algiers. Military courts are routinely closed to foreign journalists.

State radio said 50 defendants were jailed — four for life and the 46 others for terms ranging from 10 months to 10 years. Ten defendants were acquitted.

The 79 were charged with setting up and running an armed band, planning a conspiracy, distributing documents with the aim of harming state interests, and failure to report crimes.

Algeria's armed forces are seen as the rampart against a fundamentalist movement which swept the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) to the brink of parliamentary power last year. The general election was cancelled and the party later outlawed.

Thirty-two other men have been sentenced to death since Algeria's 26 million people were put under a state of emergency last February amid Muslim fundamentalist unrest.

They include a 43-year-old Frenchman, Didier Roger Guyon, a Muslim convert sentenced last month, and 13 men sentenced last May for an attack on a frontier post in which three soldiers were killed and mutilated.

Muslim militants are blamed

for the deaths of more than 210 members of the security forces in ambushes during 1992.

But the independent Al Wasa newspaper, commenting on the Bechar trial last month, said: "For the first time, the trial will throw light on the involvement of military officers in the destabilising activity planned by the fundamentalist movement."

It said the group was led by an officer named Chouchene who was "the instigator of a vast operation of destabilisation within the army in coordination with (Abdul Kader) Chabout, a leader of the armed Islamic movement."

The paper, generally well-informed on security matters, was suspended last week for the "premature" reporting of an attack in which five paramilitary gendarmes were killed. Six of its journalists are now in jail awaiting trial over the report.

The death sentences and escalating security measures reflect the authorities' vow to show no mercy to opponents in what they call their open war against terrorism.

Last year, three officers were sentenced to death for their part in a Feb. 13 attack on a naval yard near the admiralty in Algiers where seven soldiers and a policeman were killed.

Prime Minister Belaid Abdoul Salam, warning Algerians of impending curbs on freedom, said in November, "the state and its forces must go on the attack."

On Dec. 5, Algiers and six nearby provinces were put under indefinite night curfew. Early this month the authorities announced that special courts with tough powers to condemn to death or long terms of imprisonment were now ready to operate.

## Israelis doubt value of Hamas expulsions

ISRAELI ministers are satisfied that the abrupt expulsion last month of 415 Palestinians to South Lebanon, in spite of damage to the country's international standing, was widely accepted at home as a damaging blow to Islamic extremist organisations bent on attacking Israel.

However, there are strong doubts among foreign observers, Palestinians in the occupied territories and some Israeli commentators that the expulsions have achieved the aim of dislodging Hamas, the most prominent fundamentalist group in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Hamas seeks to disrupt Middle East peace talks and challenge the primacy of the secular Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

"Our analysis is that the Israelis have done much less damage than they claim to have done," said a western diplomat. "If the security forces really had a list of 400 core members of Hamas they wouldn't have been arrested a long time ago."

In addition to the 415 men

dumped across the Lebanese border the authorities rounded up hundreds more alleged activists of Hamas and Islamic Jihad; a smaller fundamentalist group responsible for violent acts against the Israeli occupation. This sudden removal from the streets of around 1,000 people undoubtedly stunned the organisations.

But those sceptical of the effectiveness of the mass round-up say the subsequent lull in armed attacks on the security forces is almost certainly temporary while the guerrillas lay low in the immediate aftermath. The killing of a Shin Bet secret service officer Sunday, and a non-fatal stabbing of another Israeli the same day may have been the first signs of a revival of the violence.

Government and military officials have acknowledged that the arrests and deportations did not include the killers of six Israeli soldiers by Hamas and Islamic Jihad in early December whose deaths prompted the expulsions.

Most of those rounded up were either prominent local figures known for their advocacy of Islamic revivalism or people involved

in little more than low-level infatigable street demonstrations against Israeli rule. Large numbers of mosque officials, Islamic and other academics, physicians and professionals were included in the expulsion.

"These people were well-known for their public support and sympathy for Hamas. But they are not the real activists, who have to operate underground. They work in small cells and do not have any public face," said a Palestinian journalist.

To some extent, the army does not dispute this. But the military insists that by moving to remove the intellectual "head" of Hamas it has paralysed the organisation, at least temporarily. The action, military sources argue, will dislocate the network of social and welfare support which Hamas operates and which gives it its essential lifeblood of public support.

Western diplomats say they would prefer to see Israel act more clinically against channels of financial and material support said to be flowing to Hamas from Iran and, to a lesser extent, from Saudi Arabia — The Financial Times.

## Care Australia halts operation in north Iraq

ANKARA (AP) — Care Australia suspended relief operations in northern Iraq Friday after one of its workers was shot and killed and another wounded, officials said.

An Iraqi Kurdish official, Saefeen Dizeye, blamed Iraqi security agents for the Thursday attack.

Iraq has denied responsibility for previous attacks on aid workers. "Care is not going to resume operations until the U.N. gives the all-clear that security is back to what it was," Care Australia National Director Ian Harris said in Perth, Australia.

Douglas Cameron, 45, of Brisbane, was shot and killed, and fellow Australian Joe Martinovic, 43, also of Brisbane, was wounded by unknown gunmen who ambushed their car, riddling it with bullets, Mr. Harris said.

Mr. Martinovic was treated and released and was awaiting transportation home, Mr. Harris said. Iraq's 3.5 million Kurds are trying to sustain a de-facto state in northern Iraq under the protection of Gulf war allies. The United Nations is engaged in a massive relief programme to help them survive a harsh winter and Iraq's food and fuel blockade.

Care Australia has about 30 people working in the relief operation, Mr. Harris said. "Most of the (Kurdish) villages are fairly well stocked up. Most of them have seven days' supplies. But after that, food and fuel will be at a premium," Mr. Harris said.

U.N. guards serving in Iraq have been attacked with hand grenades, automatic weapons, rocket-propelled grenades and explosives in the past months. U.N. officials have not directly blaming Iraq for the attacks, but Iraqi Kurdish leaders have repeatedly stated that the attacks were carried out by Iraqi government agents to jeopardise the aid effort.

"All fingers point to the Iraqi agents," Mr. Dizeye, the Ankara representative of the Kurdistan Democratic Party, told the Associated Press. "They have tried all ways and means to sabotage the current aid operation."

Mr. Dizeye said "about half a dozen" personnel of U.N. and Western relief organisations had come under attack since last summer.

Danielle Mitterrand, the wife of French president, narrowly escaped a car-bomb attack in July during a trip to northern Iraq.

Last month, a rash of bombing targeting Turkish trucks hauling supplies to the Iraqi Kurds caused a brief suspension of the aid operation deemed vital for the survival of Kurds.



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Shmaissani

## Libya sentences adulterers to 100 lashes

TUNIS (R) — A Libyan court has sentenced a man and a woman to 100 lashes each for adultery, a newspaper published by the Libyan Justice Ministry said. Libya says the Koran is its constitution but it does not normally apply the corporal punishments stipulated in the Koran, such as amputation for theft and whipping for adultery. The newspaper, Al Mizan, named the man as said Moumen and the woman as Latifa Jibril. It said they were sentenced by the Tripoli appeal court but it did not say when the trial ended or whether the sentence has been carried out.



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- Capable of working on computer and word processor.
- Knowledge of filing and correspondence.

If you are interested in applying for the above post, kindly present yourself in person to the Sales Department during working hours from 10 am to 4 pm with C.V. recent photo and passport particulars.

**FORTE HOTELS**

**JORDAN TELEVISION**  
Tel: 77111-19

**PROGRAMME TWO**

18:00	Les Aventures de L'espace
18:30	Documentary
19:00	News in French
19:15	Fenetre sur
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	America's Funniest Home Videos
21:00	Prospectives
21:30	Varieties
22:00	News in English
22:30	Feature film: "The Man From Alamo"

**PRAYER TIMES**

05:09	Fajr
06:31	Sunrise (Sunrise) Doha
11:40	Dhuhr
14:25	'Asr
16:49	Maghreb
18:11	Isha

**CHURCHES**

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedish, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 637825

St. Joseph Church Tel. 634990  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrence Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 711231

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Gabriel Church Tel. 771751

Armenian Lutheran Church Tel. 685326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 623824, 654932  
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675991

**WEATHER**

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology

It will be cold, cloudy and rainy at times, and winds will be southwesterly fresh. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy and there will be a chance for scattered showers of rain, with southerly fresh winds and rough seas.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

**AMMAN**

Min./Max. temp. 1/5  
Aqaba 9/15  
Dead Sea 2/8  
Jordan Valley 8/14

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 7, Aqaba 17, Humidity readings: Amman 72 per cent, Aqaba 30 per cent.

**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

**NIGHT DUTY**

AMMAN:

- Dr. Fakri Abu Tayeh 885880
- Dr. Mohammad Me'na 741444
- Dr. Walid Masri 675485
- Dr. Abdul Kadir Alhala 696048
- First pharmacy 661912
- Fordons pharmacy 778336
- Al Asasa pharmacy 637055
- Naboukh pharmacy 632672
- Al Salan pharmacy 636730
- Yaroub pharmacy 644945
- Shmashani pharmacy 637660
- Najib pharmacy 847632

DEBID:

- Dr. Omar Tahkouni (-)
- Al Quds Pharmacy (-)

ZARQA:

- Dr. Samir Al Lowzi 989401
- Khalifah pharmacy 985417

**EMERGENCIES**

- Food Control Centre 637111
- Civil Defence Department 661111
- Civil Defence Immediate 630441
- Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
- Fire Brigade 891228
- Blood Bank 775121
- Highway Police 843402
- Traffic Police 896390
- Public Security Department 630321
- Hotel Complaints 663800
- Price Complaints 661176
- Water and Sewerage 897467
- Amman Municipality 666157
- Complaints 787111
- Telephone Information

**HOSPITALS**

AMMAN:

- Hussein Medical Centre 81381332
- Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 642816
- Al-Khalid Maternity, J. Amn. 642412
- Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
- Mahmud, J. Amman 636140
- Palestine, Shmashani 6647114
- Shmashani Hospital 669131
- University Hospital 845845
- Al-Muhsen Hospital 6672279
- The Islamic, Aqaba 66615757
- Al-Ahli, Aqaba 6616046
- Italian, Al-Muhajir 771013

(directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 010230

Central Amman Telephone 623101

Abdullah Telephone Repairs 641101

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 660101

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power Company 636381

RJ Flight Information 98-53200

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 98-53200

**FOR THE TRAVELLER**

**QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (02)3200-3, where it should always be verified.

**ARRIVALS**

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

05:30	Jakarta, Singapore (RJ)
06:15	Cairo, Aqaba (RJ)
06:15	Beirut (RJ)
06:30	New Delhi (RJ)
06:45	Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
06:45	Beirut (RJ)
06:45	Cairo (RJ)
06:45	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
06:45	Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
06:45	Columbo (RJ)
06:45	Bangkok (RJ)
06:45	Beirut (RJ)
06:45	London, Berlin (RJ)
06:45	Frankfurt (RJ)
06:45	London (RJ)
06:45	Jeddah (RJ)
06:45	Lamaca (RJ)

**Other Flights (Terminal 2)**

07:45	Lamaca (CZ)
08:15	Beirut (AF)
08:15	Suez (TV)
08:15	Dubai (EM)
08:15	Damascus (AF)

**MARKET PRICES**

Upper/lower price in fill per kg.

Apples	700/450
Bananas	700/700
Beans (Mushroom)	640/640
Beans	350/300
Cabbage	120/80
Carrot	250/200
Cauliflower	300/250
Cucumbers (large)	150/100
Cucumbers (small)	60/50
Eggplant	240/160
Garlic	600/450
Crepes	200/150
Lebanese	200/150
Marrow (large)	250/200
Marrow (small)	300/250

هنا من الامان

## UNRWA considers reduced services

By Maha Addasi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The projected budget deficit for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) is U.S. \$25 m to U.S. \$30 m for 1993, which may result in some cuts in staff and services, according to Dennis Brown, the director of UNRWA affairs in Jordan.

Mr. Brown said that the cuts depend on the donations from four major donors to UNRWA. Since their fiscal years have not yet started, they are unable to state how much they will pledge, Mr. Brown said.

"UNRWA starts its financial year on Jan. 1, which is not the case with four of our major donors... In addition some of the other countries, because of difficult economies in Europe have informed us that they will be making cuts to their contributions. So the main reasons behind possible changes within UNRWA is because UNRWA is very concerned about meeting its budget for 1993," he said.

The public information officer at UNRWA, Mater Sager said that UNRWA in previous years broke even except for a major "crunch" in 1984. Mr. Brown said that the "crunch" was because the population of refugees was growing faster than the donations were growing. "Because of the population increase there were no resources to implement the programmes as we wanted," he said, adding that similar to the potential situation we may face this year, donor countries at the

time decided they had to cut back because there were "other problems going on in the world that wanted money from the same pot."

The possible changes that may take place in UNRWA's services to refugees have already been discussed. "At the most recent Cabinet meeting at the end of December, the commissioner general asked the directors present to give their proposals on possible budget cuts but he said that no decisions will be made until the donation situation and budget situation is clarified," Mr. Brown said.

According to Mr. Brown, the kind of cuts include not hiring additional staff. "Personnel take over 70 per cent of UNRWA's budget and not hiring additional staff is not a cut but a stop increase. In a way, UNRWA must maintain the same services for an increase of population of roughly 3.5 per cent. This is the first option."

Previous news reports mentioned that proposed budget cuts may include cancelling educational development centres in Jordan, Syria, and the Gaza Strip, reducing the number of educational supervisors, reducing the hospitalisation bills for refugees from 50 per cent to 25 per cent, cancelling all services related to paying roads in the refugee camps. Also mentioned was the transfer of school donations for UNRWA students into compulsory fees, and the payment of medical fees by the patients when they visit UNRWA clinics.



British MPs John Rathbone (left), Robert Adley (centre) and Isa Jammal Director of the Press and Publications Department at a press conference Thursday.

## British MPs propose EC pressure on Israel

AMMAN (Petra) — Two British Members of Parliament Thursday ended a week long visit to Jordan by urging the world community to impose political and economic sanctions on Israel to force it to implement U.N. Security Council Resolution concerning the Middle East region.

Robert Adley and John Rathbone told a press conference that there was need for speedy action to force Israel to give up the occupied territories and reverse the expulsion of the 415 Palestinians presently stuck in south Lebanon.

During their visit, the two parliamentarians had a meeting with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and a number of cabinet ministers in addition to Jordanian parliament members to discuss the situation in the region.

Mr. Adley and Mr. Rathbone called on the European Community to review its 1975 economic and trade agreement with Israel which was up for renewal this year. "Economic pressure on Israel at this stage is important now in the light of the ineffectiveness of the U.N. resolutions," they noted.

They also called on the British government to pay a leading role in settling the Middle East problem in view of Britain's ties with the countries of the region.

The British parliamentarians described as "barbaric" Israel's expulsion of the 415 Palestinians from their homeland.

They also noted that the European Community was offering the Palestinians facilities to market their agricultural products in European markets and was providing assistance for projects in the occupied lands.



GOODEYES: His Majesty King Hussein bids farewell to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, upon his departure Thursday on a three-nation working visit, which will take him to the United States, Germany and the United Kingdom. Also at Queen Alia airport were His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Al Hussein, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Latif Arabiyat, Royal Court Chief Khalid Al Karaki, Chief Chamberlain Prince Raad Ben Zeid and senior civil and military officials, as well as the German ambassador in Amman and the charge d'affaires of USA and Britain.

## TCC revenues are up

AMMAN (Petra) — The Telecommunication Corporation (TCC) in the past year collected a total of JD 117 million, registering a JD 31 million more than was expected by the 1992 fiscal budget.

The announcement was made Friday by Dr. Adel Shamaleh TCC assistant director general who said that most of the revenues (at least 62 per cent) came from charges on telephone calls. He said subscription charges amounted to a mere six per cent and fees for new telephones, only three per cent.

Dr. Shamaleh attributed the small margin of subscription to the fact that the TCC last year did not have sufficient telephone lines to meet the growing number of a people applying for them. With this collection, the TCC comes second in line to the customs department in the level of revenues collected for the treasury, Dr. Shamaleh added.

Dr. Shamaleh attributed the rise in the collections to the intensive efforts exerted by the TCC officials to collect the dues in the past year. He said that subscribers are now indebted to the TCC

by JD 36.3 million. Noting that the TCC has now succeeded in reducing by more than 90 per cent the total unpaid dues by the subscribers, Dr. Shamaleh said that the TCC looks forward to services to the public in the new year.

Late last year, the TCC announced new regulations to be applied this year whereby each subscriber will continue to have 1,000 free telephone calls annually against the payment of the annual subscription. But the TCC noted that a call exceeding this ceiling will have to be paid by the subscribers at the rate of 20 fils for every four minutes, up from 10 fils for every 6 minutes as was the case in the past years.

The TCC said that the regulations were included in a new plan to be implemented as of the beginning of 1993 noting that the plan fixes telephone charges for hotels, hospitals and other public places and shopping stores.

He noted that the new plan provides for strict measures to be applied against those making telephone calls to disturb other subscribers.

## Illiteracy rates down

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Friday marked the Arab day for the eradication of illiteracy by announcing further reduction in the rates of illiterate people by almost 30 per cent over the past 30 years. The rate of illiterates aged 15 and above has dropped from 67.6 per cent in 1961 to 16.8 per cent in 1991, said deputy premier and Minister of Education Thouqan Al Hindawi.

He said that Jordan hopes to bring down the rate to only eight per cent by the year 2000.

In a bid to spread education to all regions and curb dropouts from elementary schools, the ministry has recently intensified its efforts to train teachers and open adult and literacy centres in all areas, said the minister.

Jordan first initiated regulations in 1952 making it compulsory for all children to acquire primary education for six years and later in 1967 it extended this

period for three more years. In 1987 it extended it to 10 years, the minister added.

The minister voiced Jordan's appreciation of the United Nations Educational Scientific Organisation (UNESCO) and the Arab League Educational Cultural and Scientific Organisation for their help in this regard.

Discussing the question of illiteracy in Jordan, the director of the adult Education Department at the Ministry of Education, Ahmad Al Sous said that the ministry has trained 637 men and women teachers to work at the adult and literacy centres.

In 1988, the rate of illiteracy in Jordan was 22.5 per cent said Mr. Sous. The ministry carried out literacy projects mainly in the Jordan Valley, Madaba and Maan regions. He said that thousands of people now benefit from the adult education programmes.

## New ambassador to U.S. outlines priorities

By a Jordan Times  
Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Faysal Tarawneh, the Jordanian ambassador-designate to the United States who leaves for Washington Sunday, says that one of his priorities is to establish firm contacts with the new administration, Congress and various American academic and political institutions with a view to explaining Jordan's case and the Kingdom's position vis-a-vis various international issues.

Dr. Tarawneh, who faces the additional task of getting to grips with an incoming Democratic administration after 12 years of dealing with Republican rule, said he would soon get into establishing channels of communications and understanding with officials of the Clinton administration as well as new members of Congress.

Also included in the ambassador-designate's priorities are plans to set up "contacts and communications with Jordanians living all over the United States."

Dr. Tarawneh, a former minister and a senior member of Jordan's delegation to Arab-Israeli peace talks, was sworn in as ambassador before His Majesty King Hussein on Thursday.

"There is a host of diversified issues that need to be addressed" in Washington, Dr. Tarawneh, 43, told the Jordan Times in an interview Friday.

Jordanian sources in Washington have reported "hectic activities and preparations on the diplomatic level" ahead of the assumption of office by



His Majesty King Hussein swears in Dr. Faysal Tarawneh to his new post as ambassador to the U.S. Thursday (Petra photo)

the 103rd American Congress last week and the White House transition on Jan. 20.

"It is one big job," said one source. "We have more than 110 new members of Congress in addition to an almost complete revamping of senior officials in the various departments."

"Establishing strong contacts with them is a mammoth task, let alone maintaining them," added the source.

However, Dr. Tarawneh said, he did not expect any dramatic shifts. "We deal with institutions rather than individuals and, as such, I don't expect any shifts, whether it is Republican administration or Democrat."

Contacts with American universities, think-tanks, political organisations and academic centres also rank

high among his priorities, he said, "because I believe that some of these organisations still do not understand clearly Jordan's position in terms of its values, its principles."

The democratisation process now under way in Jordan, the Kingdom's views on human rights, freedom of speech, and freedom of the press are some of the key areas which need to be explained and clarified to these organisations "so that misconceptions could be removed," he said.

In addition, "there are a lot of Jordanians living in various parts of the United States and I intend to establish channels of contacts and communications with them as much as possible," he said.

Dr. Tarawneh's appointment as

ambassador should have no bearing on his status as a member of the Jordanian delegation to peace talks with Israel.

"I am told that there is not going to be any change for the moment," he said.

The new ambassador, who is also head of Jordan's steering committee to the multilateral phase of the peace talks, said he was considering how to perform the multi-faceted role, particularly that some of the multilateral talks are held outside the United States.

Dr. Tarawneh, who served as minister of state at the prime Ministry as well as minister of supply in the government of then Prime Minister Zeid Rifai in 1988 and 1989, replaces Hussein Hamami, who has been appointed secretary-general of the Foreign Ministry.

After leaving the government with the resignation of the Rifai cabinet in May 1989, Dr. Tarawneh worked in the private sector before being recalled to public office as member of the Kingdom's delegation to peace talks with Israel in 1991.

Hailing from a prominent families from Karak in the south of Jordan, Dr. Tarawneh graduated from the University of Jordan in 1971 and then secured masters and doctorate degrees in economics from the University of Southern California.

He served as assistant chief of royal protocol between 1971 and 1980 before moving to the Prime Ministry as economic adviser until 1988. He was appointed minister of state for Prime Ministry affairs in January 1988 and in December that year as minister of supply — both in the Rifai cabinet.

## Icelandic minister concludes visit, paves way for airline and tourism agreements

AMMAN (J.T.) — Iceland's Minister of Communications Halldor Blondal concludes his four-day visit to Jordan Saturday after making initial agreements on civil aviation and tourism.

Mr. Blondal and his accompanying team held a meeting Thursday with Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker to discuss bilateral ties and the situation in the region. Jordan is keen on promoting Jordanian-Icelandic cooperation and the exchange of expertise and tourist groups, said the prime minister at the meeting which was attended by Jordanian

ministers.

Mr. Blondal said his visit was to pave the ground for a visit to Jordan this year by Icelandic prime minister during which a formal agreement on cooperation in various fields will be signed. Discussions also covered the Middle East issue and Israel's expulsion of the 415 Palestinians.

Mr. Blondal told the prime minister that his country supported the implementation of all U.N. Security Council Resolutions in this matter.

Mr. Blondal and acting Minister of Tourism Abdul Karim Al

Kabariti had formal talks Thursday on future cooperation between the two countries. According to a statement at the end of the meeting, Iceland Air and Royal Jordanian (RJ) have agreed on certain terms of fixing tariffs for travel between the two countries in a bid to promote tourism.

Iceland also agreed to assign a seat for postgraduate studies scholarship for a Jordanian student in the field of underground water resources and the use of thermal power in the production of electric power.

The statement said that the two countries will later conclude a formal agreement on providing for an Icelandic team to conduct archaeological excavations in Jordan, particularly at Petra and Tabagat Fah (pella) and another for encouraging exchanges of visit by businessmen from the two countries.

The statement said that a technical team from Iceland will visit Jordan to study the prospect of helping the country initiate a fishing industry in Aqaba and training Jordanians on deep water fishing.

## Journalists attack press and publications law

By a Jordan Times  
Staff Reporter

AMMAN — While the Minister of Information Mahmoud Al Sharif defended the new press and publications law in a seminar held at the Arab Forum Wednesday, journalists privately expressed hopes that the Upper House of Parliament would reject what they see as an infringement upon their fundamental rights.

Mr. Sharif questioned the journalists' reasons for attacking the law. "The law is considered as good; it gives equal consideration to liberty and responsibility," he said. Among others, protests were voiced by an Al Ra'i newspaper journalist who pointed out that journalists have said that they are dissatisfied with the new law on several occasions, such as the demonstration held outside parliament in which more than 50 journalists submitted a memorandum to many deputies and to the Lower House's speakers (Aug.

24). "The promise by some of the deputies to review certain articles in the law was not fulfilled," the journalist said.

"This law is extremely unjust, and if the new law was under effect now you would have had the authority to put me in prison," the journalist said.

Mahmoud Al Kayed, chief editor of Al Ra'i, also registered his dissatisfaction with the new law. He criticised the restrictions imposed on the newspaper's chief editors in particular Article 13 which says that the chief editor must not exercise any other job and that he must be registered in the journalists association.

"There may be some financial or technical reasons that would oblige the chief editor to look for another job," Mr. Kayed said. "How can the law impose on the chief editor to exercise or not any other job inside or outside the

paper?" he asked. He also criticised Article 16 which states that the chief editor must have a university degree and "have sufficient experience as evaluated by the minister."

Article 40, which bans any publication from publishing news that infringes upon the armed forces, and Article 42 which bans any newspaper from publishing courts' sessions were also attacked.

"Where did this come from?" asked Mr. Kayed, "in all parts of the world, there is publication of the court's proceedings. Why didn't they say that any news item or comment that may influence the investigation procedures is prohibited," he said.

"Maintaining the liberty of the press is one of the pillars of democracy," argued Deputy Salim Al Zou'bi, the president of the judicial committee at the

Lower House of Parliament.

He said that he supported journalists in their rejection to Article 5 which states that every journalist, press agency, and editor must reveal their sources in front of the judicial authority.

"I think that it is one fundamental right of journalists to register their complaints concerning this article," Mr. Zou'bi said. "I totally agree that they have the right not to reveal their source of information; however, it was the suggestion of some deputies and it was their endorsement."

Mr. Zou'bi also pointed to problems with Article 8: Art. 8 prohibits any publication to print news item that contradicts the principles of freedom, national responsibility and human rights. "This combines certain terms and expressions that have different interpretations from one person to another," said Mr. Zou'bi.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Crown Prince praises transport workers

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan praised the efforts of the General Association of Workers in Land Transport and Mechanics, and noted the important role they play in developing the national economy. In a letter, Prince Hassan recently sent to the President of the Association, he voiced pride in the level of services the association offers to its members, in the health and welfare fields.

#### Committee concludes civil service review

AMMAN (Petra) — A legal committee, entrusted by the Cabinet to make amendments to the civil servants regulation has just completed its assignment. The committee made amendments to 20 articles of the regulation with a view to facilitating personnel procedures, and giving broader responsibilities to the ministries' secretaries general and directors general. In a related development, the civil service board discussed the national plan of administrative training for civil servants. Abdullah Ulayyan, president of the civil service commission, who also heads the board, said the training plan will cover more than 15,000 employees over the next four years. He pointed out that the board has discussed financial allocations needed to carry out training, in preparation for submitting them to the cabinet for approval.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition entitled "Latin Countries in France" at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of watercolour paintings by Jordanian artist Salam Kanaan at Riwaq Al Baika Gallery for fine arts, Al Fuhels City.

**unicef**

United Nations Children's Fund

The United Nations Children's Fund seeks qualified Jordanian candidates for the following position:

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Duty Station: Amman, Jordan

Under the general supervision of the Regional Advisor for Child Survival and Development, the Assistant Project Officer will undertake nationwide activities pertaining to the UNICEF goals and objectives of the 1990's in child survival and development and women's health. Performs special research and analysis of projects. Summarizes all national reports into a regional situation of mothers and children. Assists in preparing country reports on surveillance and survey results - represents UNICEF in conferences, seminars and committees held in the area. Coordinates with consultants on matters related to child and women health.

#### Minimum qualifications:

Advanced University Degree in Health/Social Sciences/Community Medicine. Four to six years experience in the field of health, provision of care, child health or allied sciences.

Fluency in English and Arabic with strong written skills. French is an asset.

Basic knowledge of computer literature and statistical/epidemiological analytical skills desirable.

Please send detailed resume, in English, quoting reference NO/93/01 to:

Chief of Operations  
UNICEF Regional Office  
P. O. Box 811721, Amman - Jordan

Qualified Jordanian candidates are encouraged to apply. Applications for this position must be received by 23 January 1993. Acknowledgement will only be sent to short-listed candidates under serious consideration.

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Jordan Times advertising department.

## Wrong on either side

THE REFOCUSING of world attention on Iraq, this time with an ultimatum by the U.S. and its allies against the stationing of Iraqi anti-aircraft below the 32nd Parallel, is an unwelcome development for this region and its people. Sabre-rattling by either side endangers what ever prospect of peace remains in these lands and a new military clash can only retard the search for accommodation and normalisation of relations among countries, within the region and outside. Moreover, it is wrong to raise the stakes, specifically over an issue on which neither party can be totally right.

To start with, the decision to impose the "no-fly zone" by the U.S., Britain and France against northern and southern parts of Iraq has its shortcomings and faults. So it cannot be said that Iraq is committing wrong by moving equipment, be it even anti-aircraft SAMs, inside its own territory. On the other hand, it is not in Iraq's interest to up the ante vis-a-vis the U.S. and its allies. Whether George Bush is leaving office and a new president is about to be sworn in should be besides the point for President Saddam Hussein. The Iraqi people need food and medicine to protect their lives as their top priority. Then they need their basic freedoms, democracy and human rights. They can ill-afford therefore to enter a new confrontation with the militarily superior Americans and their European and other partners.

While the original U.S.-led alliance did succeed in attaining its objective of evicting Iraq from Kuwait, and in going a long way towards achieving the twin goals of humiliating the Iraqi regime and demilitarising the hitherto regional power of Iraq, the leadership of President Bush has nevertheless failed to address the underlying reason that led to the Kuwait invasion in the first place. It is as if the Americans came in to ensure the continued flow of cheap oil, did that in one fell swoop and left things to simmer for the next round.

True, much has changed in the area since the Gulf crisis erupted and the war ended in 1991, particularly in the balance of power among protagonists and allies. But the flashpoints and the social, economic and political imbalances have remained essentially the same as before. The rising tension in the Gulf is unlikely to improve things for anybody with interest in the region. Nor is George Bush likely to change his tactics and goals at this late hour in his presidency. What has to be done therefore is to avoid a new conflict at all cost, and to leave it to the new administration in Washington to see if a new page can be opened in the Middle East's history books.

Bill Clinton's spokesman had a tough word for Saddam Hussein yesterday, calling him an "outlaw." While this does not augur well for future U.S.-Iraq relations, it is nevertheless necessary for the Iraqis to give the new president a chance. If they are willing to do what is right for their people and for peace and stability in the area, the Clinton administration will no doubt be under pressure to listen, observe and maybe even reassess its predecessor's policy as a whole. It seems like a long shot, but we can only have hope. Hostilities in the meanwhile, if they break out, can only take us further away from that hope.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE VOTING on the 1993 fiscal budget in Parliament and the debate which preceded it represented one aspect of the democratic life in the Kingdom especially as the budget came under deep scrutiny by all deputies, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily. With the endorsement by the Lower House of Parliament of the new budget, the way is now paved for it to become "law" to be applied during 1993, added the paper. But the debate and the voting, as well as the candid speeches and criticisms presented by the deputies, was an embodiment of the democratic life in the country, said the paper. It pointed out that democracy was manifested in a two-way street, namely with the open and frank speeches of the prime minister and the finance minister who presented their views and comments on the deputies' criticism in a very clear and constructive manner. The whole battle for the budget was a form of exercising democracy and the outcome is simply a source of pride and deep satisfaction for Jordanian citizens, added the daily. The paper noted that the deputies have made their points clear concerning the improvement of the standard unemployment and the methods that should be adopted in dealing with poverty. Needless to say that the deputies debate represented their deep sense of responsibility towards the public and showed the government's keenness on safeguarding public interests to the highest extent, the paper said. The paper praised the ongoing cooperation between the executive and legislative authorities which, it said, are a true evidence of democracy in the Kingdom.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily openly criticised U.N. Secretary General Boutros Ghali for siding by Israel over the evictees' problem and giving Israel and the United States the chance to settle the issue at Lebanon's expense. Tariq Masarweh said that Mr. Ghali's dispatch of yet another envoy to the region gives justification to Washington to use the veto at the Security Council against any resolution ordering Israel to repatriate the evictees. The U.N. secretary general, who was elected to his post with American backing and influence, cannot but assume an attitude that would only serve Washington's interests and those of its allies, said the writer. While the evictees come and go, the evicted Palestinians endure the cold and hunger and nothing is done by the world community or the United Nations to end the evictees' plight, the writer added. He said the evictees will continue to suffer until France persuades Lebanon to take them for humanitarian reason and so the Israeli escape punishment or even condemnation, as usual. We are living the age of conspiracies at the international level and we ought to open our eyes wide to those implementing these conspiracies, like Boutros Ghali, warned the writer. He said that Lebanon, the Palestinians and the evictees are all steadfast, and therefore we ought to avoid playing the enemy's game by accepting any compromise over this steadfastness.

## THE WEEK IN PRINT

### U.N. fails to implement 799

Reviewed by Elia Nasrallah

The evictees' plight and domestic affairs acquired most of the attention in the Jordanian press over the past week. Editorials and columnists' articles were almost unanimous in criticising the United Nations for failing to enforce Resolution 799 on the repatriation of the 415 Palestinians deported by Israel three weeks ago.

As was expected, the Security Council has to date failed to implement its own resolution on the evictees as it did concerning the other resolutions on the Palestine question, said Sawt Al Shaab daily. The U.S., which is condoning Israel's actions, also seems supportive of the Rabin government's decision not to supply food and medicine to the evicted men, the paper added.

Al Ra'i echoed the view and said that with the failure of the U.N. Security Council to implement its resolutions, Israel is being encouraged to continue its present adamant stand. The paper said that Resolution 799 is considered dead in Israel as are resolutions 242, 338, 181 and 194.

A columnist in Sawt Al Shaab said that the uprooting of the Palestinians from their lands could be the worst thing that happened to them in the course of their struggle for freedom. Dr. Mustafa Milhem called for promoting the role of the Jordanian-Palestinian committee for supporting the evictees' cause.

In the view of Hosni Avesh, a columnist in Al Ra'i, the Arabs hold a winning card now in the wake of Israel's deportation of the 415 Palestinians. The writer said that the Arabs can suspend the Arab-Israeli peace talks until the evictees have been repatriated, urge Egypt to mediate between Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Sudan and Jordan on the one hand and the Gulf countries on the other for the sake of rebuilding solidarity among Arabs, urge the Arabs and the Islamic countries to end the sanctions on Iraq and Libya and finally convene a special summit to deal with the evictees problem.

In the view of Salameh Ekour in Sawt Al Shaab the Israeli decision served as a catalyst, bringing Hamas and the PLO together. The writer said that the two sides have decided now that the Palestinians suspend the negotiations with Israel until this matter has been settled.

Ibrahim Al Abasi, a columnist in Al Ra'i, criticised the French government over the evictees problem. He said that

the French leadership has shown sympathy with the Palestinians in words rather than in deed. He said France had failed to persuade the other U.N. Security Council member nations to take meaningful action to ensure the repatriation of the Palestinians and failed to urge the world community to take action to force Israel compliance with the council resolution.

On inter-Arab relations, a columnist in Al Dustour, Hamadeh Faraaneh, said that the Arab League secretary general's call for reconciliation among the Arabs was worth considering by Arab leaders. He said that the Arabs should reestablish solidarity in the face of the Israeli defiance and end their disputes in order to benefit from the existing favourable international political climate.

He said that sanctions on Iraq have to be terminated as a prerequisite for improving relations among Arab countries.

Dwelling on the same theme, another columnist in Al Dustour said that the Arab countries ought to copy the example of Europe and seek unity. The Arabs should realise that their higher interest can only be safeguarded through solidarity and unity in a changing world where blocs are being formed and economic developments are happening all the time.

The endorsement of the 1993 fiscal budget by Parliament and the debate that preceded the voting were lauded by the daily press. Al Ra'i said that the debate and the subsequent voting were an embodiment of democracy.

Cooperation between the executive and legislative branches of government, as displayed in the debate and the voting, should continue for the benefit of the national interest, said Sawt Al Shaab.

But Taher Al Udwan, a columnist in Al Dustour, said that the deputies' speeches reflected the view that they were aimed at winning the votes of the electorate. We have not heard a single parliamentary bloc clearly lobbying the government for ensuring a clearcut plan that would deal with poverty or unemployment, said Udwan.

Neither did the Jordanian public hear any heated debate within the government over the cancellation of the consumer tax or over measures to deal with the soaring prices of various commodities; the deputies sufficed themselves with

repeated demands of concern to their own constituencies to win their support.

The law on press and publication came under scrutiny by Fahd Rimawi in Akhbar Al Usbou. The writer said that had the draft law been presented to Parliament two years ago, it would never have passed. He said that the law, which is unfair to journalists, was passed due to the non-existence of an organised opposition front among the deputies in Parliament. Indeed, the present Parliament lacks spirit or enthusiasm. We were appalled to see the deputies fiercely fighting against all attempts to cancel the draft law on press and publications while others failed to form a strong bloc to abort the whole law, he said. Rimawi feared that 1993 would witness further severe political and economic measures for the Jordanians on the domestic and external fronts.

He said the government was preparing for a political settle, for stemming the democratic life by way of keeping citizens involved in the task of electing a living. He said the government was manufacturing political parties which can be of no use to the public. Rimawi urged Parliament members to transcend differences and form a meaningful opposition that can stop government excesses and reject the rules imposed on Jordan by the International Monetary Fund or the political settlement with Israel.

His view, and those of other journalists on the new press and publications law, were countered by Salameh Ekour, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab daily. The writer said it is true that the law could have loop holes, but on the whole it should be considered a step forward that can benefit journalists and free expression in Jordan.

There is not justification for the journalists' attack on this law which makes it a rule for any journalists to be a member of the Press Association, said the writer. Ekour said that journalists who used to sell themselves for a handful of dollars doled out to them by the oil sheikhs should be stopped.

His views were supported by Nabil Al Sharif, in Al Dustour, who said that it was better for journalists to accept the new law which came after years of waiting. He said that had Parliament not taken this step, the journalists would have had to wait for at least one more year to see the old law changed for the better.

## 'Sink or swim' warning to Mideast on water

By Charles Richards

THE BRIGHT-GREEN shoots of grass that, since the first winter rains, have covered the hillsides of Jordan, cannot disguise the underlying reality of the region: that in the arid zones bordering the fertile crescent, water is a precious and rare resource; its availability depends on providence, which ignores political and state boundaries.

Water has become a pressing issue, with fears expressed by governments and others that without agreement on sharing resources, conflict could arise. Disputes over water are often cited when there are other political differences. Last month, for example, Jordan's Agriculture Minister accused the Saudis of overpumping from their common aquifer. Had relations been better, it would not have been raised.

Most agree that although water is unlikely to be the sole cause of war, it could be the drop that makes the glass spill over. Hence its special status in the multilateral Arab-Israeli peace talks, and especially in the bilateral talks between Jordan and Israel.

Possibly as a sign that the gods smiled on the proceedings, the heavens opened on the eve of Arab-Israeli peace talks. The issue of water temporarily lost urgency. The heavy rainfalls of the 1991-92 winter soaked Jordan with 13,100 million cubic metres against an annual average of 8,500 million cubic metres.

Climatic changes are not expected to make much impact on future water supplies. The major factor is expected to be the growing thirst of expanding population. The population of the Arab World, Israel and Iran, is projected to double within 30 years. Water supplies, bar some ambitious schemes such as Libya's great man-made river project, are not due to increase. Other pressures include expanding irrigation, industrialisation, and domestic use as countries develop.

The main areas of potential confrontation were over the three river systems of the region: the Euphrates, Tigris, and Jordan, rising in Turkey, Iraq and Syria, and flowing into the Gulf; the Nile; and the Jordan River basin. Jordan faces particularly serious difficulties. These have been exacerbated by the wave of refugees who arrived from Kuwait in 1991. Jordan has had to supply water and sewerage for an extra 275-300,000 people.

Since the establishment of Israel, more or less formal agreements have been reached between Israel, Lebanon, Jordan and Syria over the sharing of water in the Jordan River basin.

The most comprehensive agreement was mediated by Eric Johnston, a special envoy of President Eisenhower, between 1953 and 1955. This allocated 3 per cent to Lebanon, 10 per cent to Syria (which never signed the agreement), 31 per cent to Israel and 56 per cent to Jordan. There were inherent problems in the agreement. In case of drought, would parties take their percentage share, or would upstream users take their fixed quota?

In fact, the Johnston agreement was never fully implemented. Israel far exceeded its quota. Jordan got nothing from the Jordan River, and reduced amounts from other sources.

The difficulty now is how to establish a satisfactory agreement, Israelis argue that the reestablishment of the rightful shares of riparian states under the Johnston plan is not enough. Water will have to be allocated according to need.

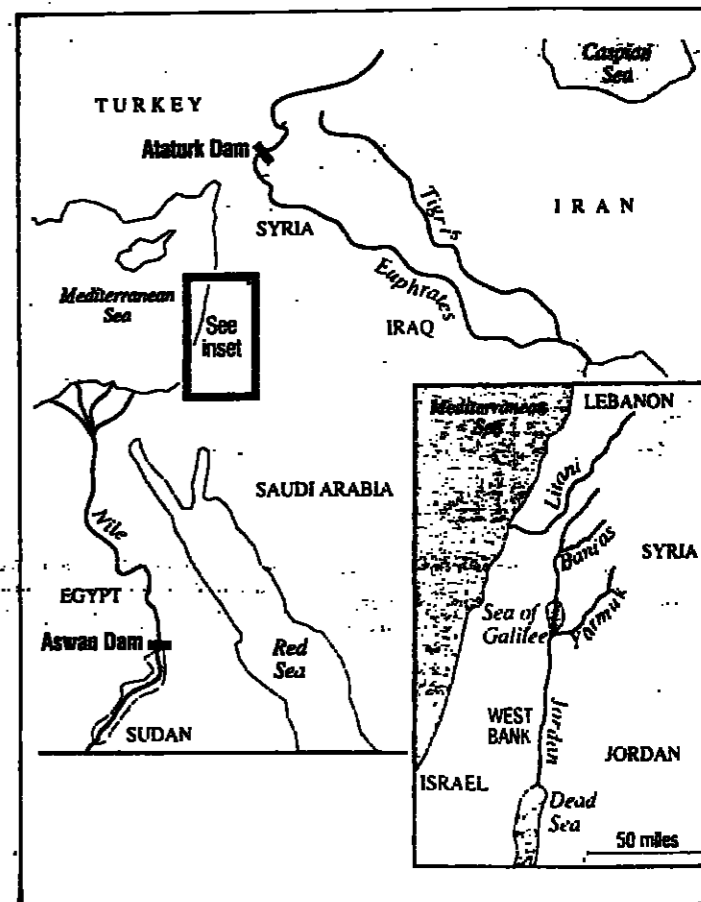
Israel insists on a definition of equitable that confirms the existing much lower per-capita water consumption of Palestinians and other Arabs than Israelis. Israelis use for domestic purposes some four or five times more than the Arabs. This is explained in terms of greater economic development and different attitudes, more western — cultural practices. But the Jordanians reject

this disparity as rooted in neo-colonial attitudes.

Jordan's Minister of Water and Irrigation Samir Kawwar insists on a reestablishment of a just and equitable distribution of water. "We are asking to go back to the Johnston plan," he says. "We hope that negotiations will result in an amicable settlement. We need regional solutions. Problems cannot be solved in each country by itself. We must first solve water rights in the area."

Two broad schools of thought argue over the strategic and military implications. One, mostly academics and technocrats, says water is too precious a resource to fight over, that war will not actually increase the supply, and the cost of war would far exceed the possible returns. The other school says water is an emotional issue, and that politicians do not always act rationally. Water disputes were one of the causes of the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

Thomas Naft, the leading historian of the Jordan River basin, issued a sobering warning in an essay published earlier this year. "Unless Israel and Jordan shun confrontation and conflict in favour of cooperation, a water crisis of such proportions as to dwarf current problems is what awaits them. In the end on this issue they will sink or swim together" — The Independent.



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مكتبة الامان

## All eyes on focused on Iraq

(Continued from page 1)

President Saddam chaired a meeting of Iraq's ruling Revolutionary Command Council and military commanders. No details of the discussion were available. Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammad Al-Sabah summoned the ambassadors of China, Pakistan and Morocco and the chargé d'affaires of Russia late Thursday to urge their governments to prevent military action against Iraq.

He told the envoys, whose countries are members of the U.N. Security Council, that Baghdad was ready to defend itself against any aggression, the agency said.

As U.S. spy planes and satellites continued surveillance of the area, administration officials were studying a four-page Arab language response given them Thursday by Iraqi-U.N. Ambassador Nizar Hamdoun in response to the 48-hour ultimatum issued by the allies Wednesday.

"My response was that Iraq does not recognize the 'no-fly zone,'" Mr. Hamdoun told reporters. "It was not imposed by the United Nations but was imposed by the three Western powers," he said, reiterating Baghdad's long-held contention that the zone violated Iraqi sovereignty.

He declined to say whether Iraq would move the Soviet-made surface-to-air missiles, but indicated that his government was seeking reconciliation with the United States now that a new administration was about to take office.

"There should be a dialogue ... to put the complexities of the past behind us," Mr. Hamdoun said, and Iraq was therefore inviting a delegation of U.S. lawmakers to Baghdad to discuss the "no-fly" zone and other issues.

But President-elect Bill Clinton emphasized that his incoming administration supported Mr. Bush.

"I don't know whether (Iraq) is testing us to solve or not," Mr. Clinton said. "But I agree with what President Bush is doing."

Mr. Clinton said the change of administrations would not make

"any difference in the dedication of the United States to the terms to which (Iraq) agreed at the end of the Gulf war."

Clinton Spokesman George Stephanopoulos called President Saddam an "outlaw" when asked earlier whether he thought the Iraqi leader was testing the final days of the Bush administration or the incoming Clinton government.

"I don't know what he's doing. I can't read his mind. But he's going to get the same response either way," Mr. Stephanopoulos told reporters.

"Governor Clinton fully supports President Bush's policy and Saddam Hussein should know that that forceful policy will be continued when the president-elect takes office," he said.

He said any refusal by Iraq to comply with U.N. resolutions "can't be tolerated by the U.S."

Les Aspin, Mr. Clinton's defense secretary-designate, said that Mr. Clinton will not weaken his pledge to maintain a tough U.S. policy on Iraq.

But Mr. Aspin, speaking at his confirmation hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee, said he could not say what specific steps Clinton might take against Iraq after he takes office as president.

"There would be no way that Clinton is going to back off of his commitments that he's made in the campaign in terms of Iraq," Mr. Aspin said.

Asked if he agreed with the ultimatum given to Iraq, Mr. Aspin replied: "Yes, sir."

Mr. Hamdoun said he hoped the crisis has been defused.

U.S. officials said it was not the basis of the "no-fly" zone following 10 days of incursions by their aircraft into the area. Last month a U.S. F-16 fighter shot down an Iraqi MiG inside the zone.

On Thursday, U.S. spy cameras detected some movement of the SA-2 and SA-3 missiles from the positions they held earlier in the week. But administration officials said the missiles still were below the 32nd Parallel as dark-

ness fell over Iraq on Thursday, and it was unclear where the missiles had been moved.

U.S. analysis said the missiles were moved in keeping with standard practice for the Iraqis when their weapons are endangered, and probably were camouflaged to hide them from reconnaissance planes and satellites.

U.S. officials warned against speculation that there would be instant military retaliation against Iraq if the withdrawal deadline passed.

"I would not look for some minute-by-minute countdown," Mr. Fitzwater said.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Secretary General Manfred Woerner said he did not expect Western allies to launch immediate large-scale military action against Iraq if it failed to heed the ultimatum.

Speaking to reporters at a political meeting in the German state of Bavaria, Mr. Woerner said he did not think there would be immediate moves once the ultimatum runs out.

But he added: "The international community and the U.N. will react energetically, and will move to react, to make clear that they will not put up with a provocation."

The allies have some 200 combat aircraft in the region, plus long-range Tomahawk cruise missiles on U.S. warships in the Gulf.

Among the military options open to the allies are air strikes on the missile batteries' radars, without which the weapons are useless.

The United States also could bomb the runways of the air bases from where Iraq is launching the incursions below the 32nd Parallel, officials said in Washington.

In Kuwait, the prospect of renewed hostilities raised fears that the emirate which neighbours Iraq could be a target for Baghdad's retaliation.

Western officials estimate that Iraq still has an estimated 100 to 150 surface-to-surface Scud missiles which can reach Kuwait, northern Saudi Arabia and Israel.

Mr. Bush summoned military and foreign policy advisers a few hours after Mr. Aziz declared that Baghdad would not remove the missiles.

## Peres warns U.N. against pressure

(Continued from page 1)

"At the moment it is impossible to fly. The weather is very bad here. It's impossible even to walk around here," Mr. Golsel said from the force headquarters in Naqura, just above the Israeli frontier.

The evacuees have been trapped on the edge of the zone of South Lebanon controlled by Israel since Dec. 17 when Israel expelled them and Lebanon refused to accept their entry.

The harsh weather on the snowy hillsides of Lebanon has been one of the chief concerns about the evacuees' welfare.

As part of the dispute between Israel and Lebanon on which was responsible for the men's welfare, the two sides have blocked the Red Cross from delivering food and medicine to them.

Israeli officials have stressed that the Red Cross visit is to assess the needs of the evacuees, not to deliver relief goods.

Mr. Gharekhan refused to say if the U.N. would take sanctions against Israel if it did not allow the men to return home.

"I would not like to start off my mission here on the presumption of failure, so I don't want to talk about what Mr. Boutros Ghali said ... I would like Israel to continue its cooperation," Mr. Gharekhan told reporters.

He is to meet Prime Minister Rabin Sunday.

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali said Monday if Mr. Gharekhan's mission failed he could recommend unspecified

further steps by the Security Council to make Israel comply with its demand to take back the Palestinians.

Israel accuses the evacuees of having links to Islamic fundamentalist groups responsible for killing Israeli soldiers.

The head of a U.N. agency providing relief to Palestinian refugees in the Middle East has expressed serious concern over the deteriorating health of the 415 Palestinians.

A statement issued by the Vienna-based U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) said 60 cases of diarrhoea or dysentery had been reported by doctors among the evacuees because of a shortage of fresh water and inadequate sanitary conditions.

It said the agency also had reports of five cases of scabies, a contagious skin disease, as well as tooth abscesses and eye trouble.

One was reportedly suffering from a kidney dysfunction and doctors feared he could suffer kidney failure, while another injured by shrapnel had to have his jaw wired shut and was having difficulty taking food.

The statement said food supplies were only sufficient for two more days, despite rationing, allowing one loaf of bread to each deportee every three days.

"In order to prevent this tragedy from worsening, I urge the international community to act quickly to find ways of providing emergency humanitarian assistance to the deportees," said UNRWA Commissioner-General Ifer Tuerkmen.

## Jordan, Iraq renew oil accord

(Continued from page 1)

The Iraqi-Jordanian oil agreement comes amid a decline in the flow of Iraqi imports through Jordan but a steady Iraqi purchase of Jordanian food and medicine.

Western diplomats said the renewal of the agreement was expected despite a plunge in bilateral relations following the recent assassination of an Iraqi engineer in Jordan attributed to Iraqi intelligence agents.

The murder, the first of its kind in Jordan, infuriated the Jordanian government as well as Jordanians who, citing pan-Arab nationalism, supported the Iraqi leadership during the Gulf crisis.

Apparently taken aback by the angry Jordanian reaction to the killing, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein sent his deputy Taha Yassin Ramadan to Jordan with what was described as an apology to the Kingdom for the assassination, according to sources.

The "apology," which described the killing as a mistake, was carried to His Majesty King Hussein, who was at that time on a private visit to London, by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the sources said.

Three Iraqis have been detained in connection with the killing — a fourth is still being sought — and the case is expected to go to court soon.

## Somalis

(Continued from page 1)

which is armed to the teeth after years of courtship by the cold war superpowers.

Clan violence, which has reduced Somalia's cities to rubble and its people to starvation, has intensified safety worries for relief agencies and the troops trying to guard their efforts to provide food and medicine to the starving.

Many in Addis Ababa saw the U.S. assault, which allowed repeated warnings to the unruly militias, as a further factor in swaying General Aideed's decision in favour of a peace deal.

Gen. Aideed looked furious as he emerged from talks being held in a disused casino in an Addis Ababa hotel Thursday. He refused to comment on either peace moves or the Marine attack on his gunmen.

## When environmentalism jibes with economics

By Jessica Mathews

WASHINGTON — For 25 years, most environmental progress in America has been made through legislation and in court. Much of great value has been achieved. But from the first day of congressional hearings to the last day of the final legal appeal, the adversarial process forces business and environmentalists to assume the worst about each other. Environmentalists push, unrelentingly, for progress. Business is dragged unwillingly ahead, inch by painful inch, resisting each step out of fear of what may come next. Each side's behaviour confirms the other's worst expectations.

There are other costs. The legislation-regulation-litigation sequence is painfully slow. Major new laws may take a decade to write and another to implement fully. When scientific understanding is changing rapidly, that can mean a regulatory system wildly out of step with the state of knowledge.

Regulations are often economically inefficient. Every emitter is told to meet a standard, even if one factory or industry could cut twice the pollution at half the cost. They hide costs from consumers. And they are inherently static. Even rules that specify the use of "best available" technologies cramp innovation. Such regulations spur the use of what is at the cutting edge when they are written, but an entrepreneur with a better product a few years later faces a market wedded to whatever the rule specified.

For all these reasons, environmentalists and industry have recently been looking for alternatives to the adversarial straitjacket. There have been some notable instances of cooperation. A few of the largest U.S. businesses have voluntarily gone beyond what the law requires in cutting emissions, energy use or waste production.

New approaches, however, ways to make the marketplace reflect environmental costs, have come from environmentalists, academics and government. It is they who have developed emissions trading schemes (a marketplace in rights to pollute), various user fees, deposit-refund plans, and pollution and congestion

charges. Industry has sat back and responded — usually negatively.

In October, one industry leader, Frank Popoff, chairman of Dow Chemical, crossed the intellectual Rubicon. Arguing that improved environmental performance would be "a matter of economic survival," he called on the

Popoff. Where he entered new territory was in making a concrete proposal — that as a first step, chemical companies should charge for their products according to their environmental cost to the company. Firms would have to identify every step in a product's life from raw material to final disposal, including every byproduct and waste. Rather than pool environmental costs as firms now do, treating them as a cost of doing business, these costs would be assigned to each product.

Customers would then know the environmental costs of what they buy. Some prices would rise. Most bankers and industry analysts who have commented on the proposal seem to have thought only this far. The important point is that the companies themselves would finally know the differing environmental costs of their products. The effects on technology choice and new product design would be profound and automatic. Many prices would fall. For the most responsive firms, costs of regulatory compliance and of legal liabilities would plummet. Competitiveness would rise.

Oddly, the media have ignored Mr. Popoff's ideas. Apart from the value of his pricing proposal, it reflects a mind-set that is radically new in U.S. industry. He recognises that the need to constantly lower environmental impacts is here to stay and that this can either impose a heavy cost or be a means to profit. For those who still believe that "economics and environmentalism are opposing objectives," he has this timely reminder: "Fifteen years ago, the same thing was said about quality and lower costs. The Japanese proved how wrong they were."

Most important, Mr. Popoff has laid down a challenge to the chemical industry and any others that may be listening. If you don't like "regs and legs," he is saying, come up with something that makes the market work better, something the private sector can do on its own. That, too, is part of industry's job.

The writer is vice president of the World Resources Institute. The article is reprinted from The Washington Post.

chemical industry to abandon "a reluctant compliance orientation — waiting until the last minute" in favour of an approach that would foster innovation and continuous improvement not tied to the pace or content of laws and regulation.

In the long run, he said, full-cost pricing is the means to do this. Full-cost pricing, which does not exist except in economic theory, reflect the full environmental and social costs of goods and services. They would include everything from the use of air and water for absorbing emissions and wastes to the national security costs of assuring the flow of oil imports.

None of this is original to Mr. Popoff's ideas. Apart from the value of his pricing proposal, it reflects a mind-set that is radically new in U.S. industry. He recognises that the need to constantly lower environmental impacts is here to stay and that this can either impose a heavy cost or be a means to profit. For those who still believe that "economics and environmentalism are opposing objectives," he has this timely reminder: "Fifteen years ago, the same thing was said about quality and lower costs. The Japanese proved how wrong they were."

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## Brotherhood sweeps IAF polls

(Continued from page 1)

Saudi Arabia to perform the lesser pilgrimage (Umra) and was elected in absentia.

Bassam Ummoush, a professor of Islamic law at Jordan University and who, according to sources, is expected to be a Brotherhood candidate for parliamentary elections representing the city of Zarqa, won the highest number of votes (69).

One vote behind was the Lower House of Parliament Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat with 68 votes followed by Brotherhood Taffieh Deputy Abdullah Akailah with 66 votes.

The three independents followed with 64 votes for Abdul Bari Zawahreh and a tie with 63 votes each between Mr. Tal, who is the editor-in-chief of the Islamist Al-Liwa weekly magazine, and Abdul Ragheb.

Brotherhood Amman Deputy Hanzeh Mansour and Brotherhood member and columnist Ziad Abu Ghanimeh followed with 62 votes each.

The Hawkish "Suwailah group" led by Amman Deputy Hamman Sa'id managed to consolidate the votes of their supporters to elect a bloc of at least four of them to the executive committee.

While Dr. Sa'id received 54 votes, three of his followers tied with 51 votes each in a clear indication that the same bloc

voted them in. They were: Dr. Rajih Kurdi, Dr. Kandil Shaker and Dr. Mohammad Uwaidah.

Sources close to the elections and the consultations leading up to them, maintain, that "hawks" organised their voters, giving a clear list of candidates to vote for. And it was precisely this move which pulled the rug from under the moderate camp which, according to sources within it, took a decision to try to bring in the largest number of moderates possible but failed to prepare a clear list of its candidates.

But most sources contacted by the Jordan Times were unable to explain the failure of Deputy Mohammed Abu Faris, who is a close associate of Mr. Sa'id and a fellow champion of hawkish Brotherhood policies, to secure enough votes to win. He received only 31 votes.

Moderates including Irbid Deputy Abdul Rahim Ekour and Amman Deputy Majid Khalifeh received 50 and 49 votes respectively.

tively followed by hawkish Irbid Brotherhood member Dr. Ali Ekour and Irbid Deputy Ahmad Koutfal with 49 and 47 votes.

With an eye to parliamentary elections later this year, candidates for the executive committee were not only chosen for their political policies but also for their representative tribal strength.

Dr. Ummoush, who received the highest number of votes and Mr. Zawahreh, who ranked fourth, for example, are both from the Zarqa tribe of Bani Hassan, which traditionally is able to carry its candidates to Parliament on its own tribal strength. Dr. Arabiyat, who received the second highest number of votes is from a prominent tribe in the city of Salt, which has among its wings several other families. Mr. Tal is from a recognised family in Irbid.

The division of winners of seats in the executive committee according to cities outside Amman gave the largest number followed by Irbid (4), Zarqa (3), Salt (1) and Taffieh (1).

## Somalis

(Continued from page 1)

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## Ghali vows

(Continued from page 1)

"We discussed attempts to peacefully resolve the Libyan crisis and my talks with the Libyan minister," Dr. Ghali said. "The talks will continue, and I hope we will find a peaceful solution for this crisis between Libya and the United States, Britain and France."

Last April 15, the United Nations embargoed air travel and arms sales to Libya and urged reduced diplomatic ties with Tripoli. The object was to force Libya to surrender for trial two Libyans under indictment in the United States and Britain on charges they bombed a Pan Am flight over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988.

Libyan protests the sanctions but still refuses to hand over the men.

It says shortages in medical supplies created by the sanctions have caused hundreds of deaths. It says many people have died in car accidents due to increased traffic caused by the ban on international air travel.

The most prominent casualty tripoli attributed to that cause was Ibrahim Bakar, Libya's chief intelligence agent who headed the interior and justice ministries. He died in a car crash Wednesday as he returned home from Tunis.

لجنة التنسيق للشراء الموحدة  
The Coordinating Committee of the Consolidated Purchasing

شركة مصانع الاسمنت الاردنية  
The Jordan Cement Factories Co. Ltd.

شركة المناجم الفوسفاتية الاردنية  
Jordan Phosphate Mines Co. Ltd.

### INVITATION TO TENDERS

The Higher Committee of the Consolidated Purchasing in:

- Jordan Phosphate Mines Co. Ltd.
- The Arab Potash Co. Ltd.
- The Jordan Cement Factories Co. Ltd.

Announces the invitation to the following tenders:

- 1) Tender No. F.P.C. 1/93 (for the supply of conveyor rubber belts).
- 2) Tender No. F.P.C. 2/93 (for the supply of general tires).

Tender documents and conditions can be obtained from the Jordan Phosphate Mines Co. Ltd. offices in Amman/ Tender Section against JD 150 non-refundable fees for each set of tender documents.

The closing date for submission tenders is 12:00 hours local time Saturday, 27 February 1993.

The Higher Committee of Consolidated Purchasing

Grand Opening

TUESDAY 12TH OF JAN. 1993  
Complimentary drinks & cocktails from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Delicious food, exotic drinks, cozy surroundings means being at JORDAN GARDENS Cotton Club where you can have the best time in town with live entertainment (Waves), and the latest surround system with live concerts and Karaoke on video screen.

Happy hour ... Sun., Tue., Wed., from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Two drinks for the price of one.

Couples only

The Cotton Club  
At  
JORDAN GARDENS

For reservation Tel. 812997-812473 Mecca Str. Daoud Center.

# Graf, Stich give Germany Hopman Cup win

PERTH (R) — The awesome combination of Steffi Graf and Michael Stich blasted Germany to victory over Spain in the final of the Hopman Cup mixed teams tennis tournament Friday.

Graf, the world number two, must the top seeds towards their triumph with a 6-4 6-3 defeat of Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and Stich gave them an unbeatable 2-0 lead with a straight sets win in the men's singles over older brother Emilio.

The Spanish winners of the unique 12-nation event in 1989, were overwhelmed by the sheer power of the German pair. Stich mixing explosive serves with elegantly sliced volleys in his 7-5 6-4 victory.

Sanchez, who has never beaten Stich, battled bravely and forced streaks of serve in both sets but the German was able to raise his game on vital points and approximately won the match on a booming service down the centre.

The German victory was particularly satisfying for Graf, who was arguably robbed of last year's trophy when a virus contributed to a semifinal loss with Boris Becker and later forced her withdrawal for the Australian Open.

She joyfully embraced Stich as he came off court after his victory over Sanchez.

"This was very special for me. I hope we can come back and play some good tennis again," Graf said.

She had earlier shown no ill effects from an ankle injury that forced her to forfeit the "dead" mixed doubles in Thursday night's semifinal win over France, outbidding and out-serving the tenacious Sanchez Vicario.

The Germans forfeited the meaningless mixed doubles, making the 2-1, as Graf did not want to aggravate the right ankle ahead of the year's first Grand Slam event, the Australian Open, which starts January 18.

"It started hurting in the second set, there are a few prob-



Steffi Graf suffered a slight ankle injury that forced her to forfeit the mixed doubles match

lems with the ligament and it needs a few days' rest," Graf said.

Graf, with a 16-3 record over Sanchez Vicario, was clinical in her 67-minute victory, allowing the little Spaniard only a whiff of a chance with a break in the first set to pull the score back to 5-4.

But Graf immediately broke Sanchez Vicario's service to take

the set when her opponent netted a volley from a powerful return of serve.

Sanchez Vicario promptly broke Graf again at the beginning of the second set but then nervously double faulted to give the German the break-back for 2-2.

Graf, her forehead dominating, broke again in the sixth game with a superb looping forehand drive, then wrapped up the match on her own service.

Stich, going into the match with Germany 1-0, quickly found his rhythm, breaking Sanchez in the third game and threatening to produce the astonishing 31 serves of his semifinal win over Guy Forget.

But Sanchez is a fighter like his sister he produced two superb passing shots on Stich's serve to claw back to 5-5.

But the 24-year-old German, maintaining the form that won him \$2 million in last month's Grand Slam Cup, promptly broke back and served out the set.

The pattern was similar in the second with Stich breaking to love early but Sanchez staying in the match and breaking back in the sixth game.

Sanchez had a game point to make it 5-3 on Stich's service but the German saved it, won the game then broke the Spaniard in the following game with a delightful lob.

Sanchez said he felt he was never in trouble. "He is always a guy who is fighting for every point, I was ahead the whole match but I just screwed it up a couple of times," he said.

## Saunders attempts to end goal drought

LONDON (R) — Dean Saunders, so prolific in his early games for Aston Villa, bids to end a goal famine against his former club Liverpool Saturday.

The Wales striker, who joined Villa from Liverpool in September, has only a penalty against Arsenal to show for his last eight English Premier League appearances.

But he scored twice in the 4-2 home win over Liverpool in September, his second game for his new club.

Central defender Paul McGrath said: "There isn't a better goalscorer in the game. It will be difficult for him going back to Anfield and they will be waiting for him. But I know he can handle it and so can the rest of the team."

Saunders' 13-goal strike partner Dalian Atkinson is still battling for fitness after missing the last three games with a recurrence of a stomach muscle injury. Villa will join leaders Norwich on 41 points if they win, but Manchester United, like Villa on 38 points but with a better goal difference, will fill top place if they beat Tottenham at home.

Norwich, who have taken just two points from their last four games, visit Sheffield Wednesday Sunday.

Manchester United will have Paul Ince and Ryan Giggs back after injury, displacing teenager Keith Gillespie and Mike Phelan, F.A. Cup goal heroes against Bury Tuesday.

Arsenal, at home to struggling Sheffield United, hope recent cup wins against Middlesbrough and Scarborough can put them back on the victory trail in the league after a dismal run of five defeats and two draws.

Crystal Palace welcome back striker Chris Armstrong for the visit of Everton as Steve Coppell's side attempt their sixth successive Premier League victory.

Grant Watts, who scored in Palace's League Cup fifth round victory over Chelsea Wednesday, is likely to be the unlucky player to make way for Armstrong.

England midfielder David Batty starts a two-match suspension as struggling champions Leeds meet Southampton bidding to end a win-less run of four games.

David Rocastle, who deputised when Batty was sidelined for eight matches with a fractured ankle, could be recalled.

However, manager Howard Wilkinson may switch Gary Speed to Batty's central midfield slot and bring in former Blackburn winger Scott Sellers, who has recovered from a hernia operation.

Former Southampton striker Rod Wallace is also in contention for a recall against his old club.

## SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

### 21.13Denmark to meet Argentina in clash of champions

COPENHAGEN (R) — Denmark will play Argentina in Buenos Aires next month in the first official game between the European and South American soccer champions. The Danish soccer federation announced Friday it had accepted the February 24 date proposed by the Argentine Football Association for the clash launched by the game's European governing body UEFA and South America's Conmebol. Argentina, losing World Cup finalists against Germany in 1990 and South American champions in 1991, are unbeaten in 21 internationals under coach Alfio Basile. Denmark have been largely off form since their sensational 2-0 win over Germany in the European Championship final in Sweden last June.

### NBA's best plays NBA's worst team

DALLAS (AP) — The NBA's best met the NBA's worst and the result was nothing near what was expected as Phoenix escaped with a narrow 111-107 victory. Phoenix seemed on the verge of putting the game away in the third quarter, leading 73-60 before Derek Harper triggered a 29-9 Dallas run with five consecutive points. Dallas held an 89-82 lead entering the final period, only the second time all season the Mavericks had the advantage after three quarters. Barkley led the Suns with 32 points and Chambers added 25.

### Short, Timman face off for right to meet Kasparov

SAN LORENZO DE EL ESCORIAL, Spain (R) — Britain's Nigel Short and Dutchman Jan Timman draw lots Saturday in the first stage of a grueling 14-game battle for the right to challenge Russia's Garry Kasparov for his world chess title. The final world championship eliminator contest in a sport long dominated by Russians will produce the first Western title challenge for 20 years. Russia's Anatoly Karpov and Garry Kasparov have held sway since eccentric American Bobby Fischer lost the world championship by default in 1975. On paper, Short is favourite to win. He is younger, higher in the international computer rankings, and the only player other than Kasparov to defeat Karpov. Karpov crushed Timman at their match encounter.

### Norwegian reaches South Pole as first on solo

OSLO (AP) — After 50 days alone in Antarctica, Norwegian Erling Kagge became the first person to ski solo to the South Pole with no outside help. The 29-year-old lawyer completed the journey at 0530 GMT Thursday after seven weeks of travel in temperatures that fell as low as minus 40 degrees C, said his spokesman, Hans Christian Erlandsen. "After walking 1,310 kilometres (864 miles) totally alone, he is bound to be very happy," said Erlandsen. "He must be feeling great." The Norwegian skier, who turns 30 Jan. 15, reached his goal 10 days ahead of schedule, leaving his welcoming committee stranded by bad weather in Punta Arenas, Chile.

## Paris-Dakar survivors resume battle

PARIS (R) — The Paris-Dakar Rally headed deeper into the Sahara Friday, its weary survivors hoping for a respite from the dreadful conditions which bogged down the marathon Wednesday.

Some 14 competitors missed the start of the 735 kilometres from Bordj Omar Driss to Tamanrasset in southern Algeria and many faced exclusion for exceeding permitted lateness. They had all suffered in the soft sand which brought the rally to a virtual standstill.

Britain's Tony Fowkes and his south Korean co-driver Kwang (I-Un) posted the first factory retirement among several drivers and motorcycle riders airlifted out of the deep dunes after becoming irretrievably stuck.

Many drivers were in their cars for 24 hours or more — including Citroen's four-times winner Ari Vatanen of Finland, who has dropped from third to 13th — over the nightmare 951 kms from Beni Ounif to El Golea. Several riders stopped to wait

for dawn, rather than continue in the dark, sub-zero conditions of the Saharan night.

Thursday's leg was cancelled to allow competitors time to regroup.

Bike leader Stephane Peterhansel of France, said Friday morning: "It was the worst state I have ever known — I was getting stuck every 20 metres. By the time I reached El Golea I was absolutely exhausted and then had to ride another 653 kms to make Bordj Omar Driss on time Thursday night."

His Yamaha team mate Jordi Arcarons of Spain was penalised eight hours for missing a time control Wednesday, dropping him from second to 16th of the 18 bikers still running. France's Thierry Charbonnier moved up to second.

France's Bruno Saby heads the Rally in a works Mitsubishi, followed by the factory Citroens of compatriot Pierre Lartigue and Finland's Timo Salonen.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY JANUARY 9, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Entering into any type of controversy today won't be in your best interest. Doing anything in an unorthodox way could result in major problems that could strain your humanitarian nature.

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) A stranger can today be the means by which you now increase your growth to a fuller and more meaningful existence so be receptive to such a person.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Discussions with those who are aware of how to best attain your secret goals will be an uplifting today in giving you the suggestions you desire.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) Watch for some amazing opportunity of a public nature to come your way today and use it to your advantage so you can increase your popularity.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Consider well the returns you are obtaining for whatever duties you are performing and explain to those able to further your goals how they will assist you.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) One of those days when you will be able to easily please your close attachment by some overt act of affection or romance so don't hold back your love.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) That change or addition you

have been planning to your residence can now be definitely planned or put in motion so be on the alert to do so.

**LIBRA:** (September 23 to October 22) Be more direct with your usual companions about what they can do that will conform more harmoniously with your routines in the outside world.

**SCORPIO:** (October 23 to November 21) Reaching out for a greater amount of abundance can be the means by which you can sooner realize this worthwhile goal and have money to spare.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (November 22 to December 21) Your most original and progressive goals are now within your sights and all you have to do is to reach out and make them a part of your life.

**CAPRICORN:** (December 22 to January 20) Meet with those confidential advisors and experts who have given you the right slant how best to gain your private, secret longings.

**AQUARIUS:** (January 21 to February 19) Your own personal aims and wishes are close to you now so go after them in a positive and forthright fashion, using all honorable means.

**PISCES:** (February 20 to March 20) You can best your best advice how to handle your worldly and vocational problems from friends as well as some talented newcomers in your life.

## THE BETTER HALF

By Morris



"I wanted to fill your bath with champagne, but Kool-Aid was cheaper!"

## ARABTECH / JARDANEH

Consulting Engineers & Architects

Are recruiting for the following position at their Head Office in Amman:

**Director of Administration / Finance:** Responsible for the firm's administrative / finance department. Includes all administrative, personnel, and financial operations in and outside of Jordan.

### Qualifications:

MBA preferable  
Minimum of 7 - 10 years experience in upper level administrative / managerial / finance position in a large / international firm.

Knowledge of relevant computer applications (D base, Foxpro, Lotus, etc.)  
Good command of both English and Arabic.

Qualified applicants are requested to submit their C.V.'s in person to the Head Office located behind ALWAHA Stores.

Telephone: 827167

## GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HIRSHI

### DISCOVER THE LIE OF THE LAND

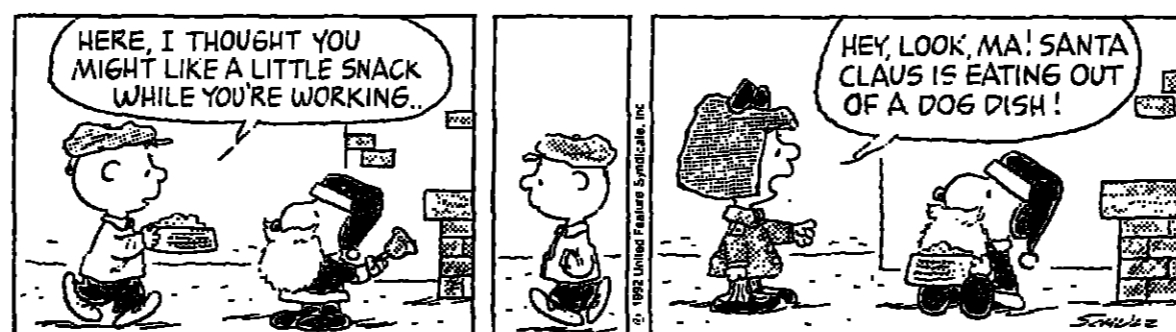
Neither vulnerable, South deals, service. Let's suppose that, following the precepts of "third hand high" and "don't finesse against partner," East plays the king of spades on his partner's opening lead of a low spade. Declarer wins the ace and forces out the ace of trumps. Do you know whether your side can cash a spade trick?

The answer is no. How you should conduct the defense from this point is pure guesswork. Now assume that, instead of the king, you were to insert the jack of spades at trick one. Declarer wins the queen and again plays trumps. You can now build a picture of declarer's hand — the ace and queen of spades (partner wouldn't underlead the ace on this auction) and jack of trumps and, since South passed originally, a club holding that does not include the ace. Possession of that card would have given South an opening bid.

Therefore, there's no future in returning a spade; to defeat the contract you need three tricks quickly, and they can only come from clubs. But shifting to a low club is not good enough — you must lead the queen. Your reward for such fine defense is a one-trick set.

Opening lead: Four of ♠. These cute means as dear to the bridge player's heart are just that: generalizations that are appropriate most of the time, but can be death traps if you follow them slavishly. We are going to blow two of them out of the water with this hand. Once hearts are supported, South's hand reveals a full opening bid. To bid anything less than a heart would be doing it a

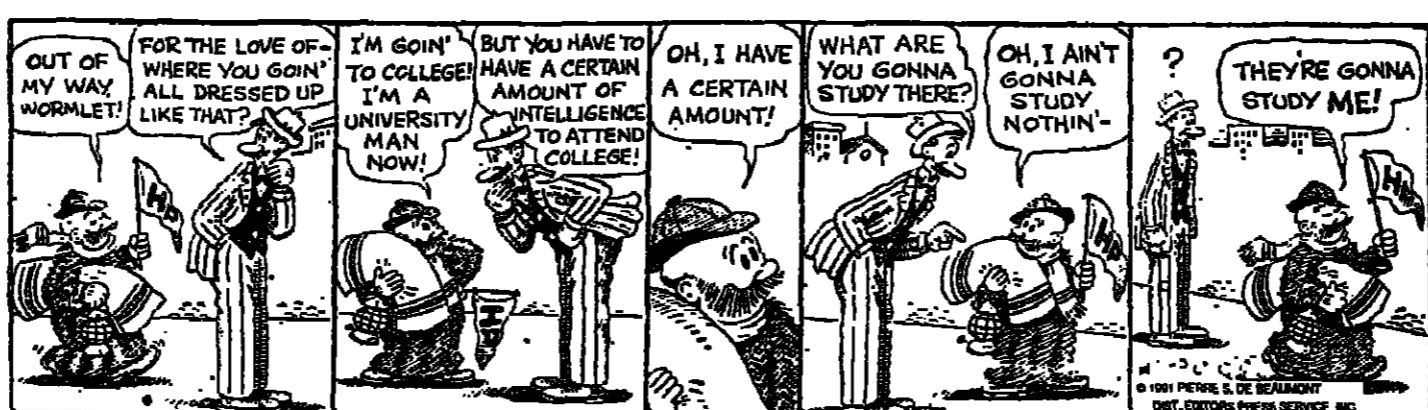
## Peanuts



## Andy Capp

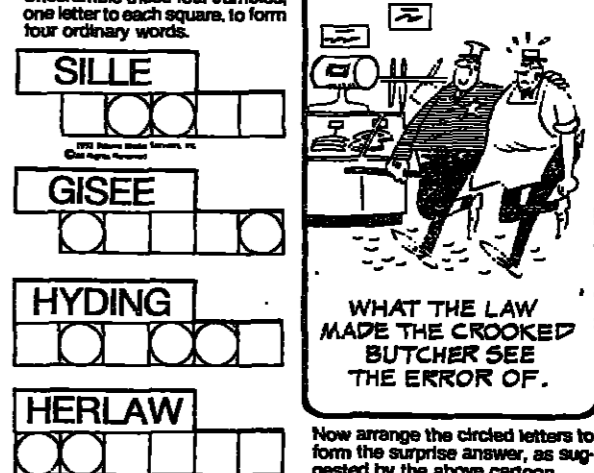


## Mutt'n'Jeff



## JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

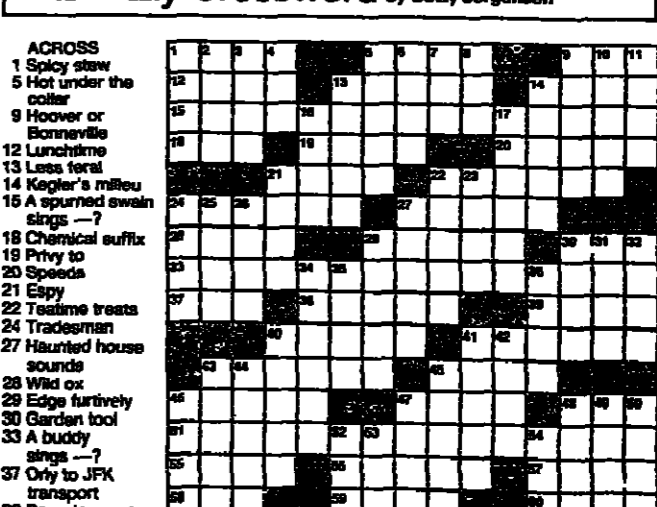


Print answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

Yesterday's Jumbles: PIKER ANISE PRIMED TUXEDO

Answer: The part of the book the surgeon liked best — THE APPENDIX

## THE Daily Crossword by Betty Jorgensen



**ACROSS**  
1 Sea slug  
5 Hot under the collar  
9 Hoover or Remington  
12 Lunchtime  
13 Lanes term  
14 Kagle's milieu  
15 A spurred avian singe — 7  
18 Chemical suffix  
19 Prey to  
20 Speeds  
21 Espy  
22 Tautline treats  
24 Tradeout  
27 Haunted house sounds  
28 Wild ox  
29 Edge fervently  
30 Garden tool  
31 A buddy  
32 singe — 7  
37 Only to FFK transport  
38 Bargain events  
39 — Scott  
40 Prey to  
41 In good spirits  
42 Fiches  
43 Meta' stadium  
44 Bright-eyed  
47 Wangle  
48 Chinese universal  
51 The Golden Gate singe  
52 "Thank you"  
53 Antarctic sea  
54 Scandnavian  
57 Unga, poetically  
58 Persia  
60 Shapes with an ax

**DOWN**  
1 Long ago  
2 Kind of shark  
3 Solitary  
4 Hill builder  
5 Wooden shoe  
6 Portent  
7 Ump's counterpart  
8 Mistap  
9 Hula or hors  
10 Lamas  
11 mountaine  
12 Kind of fish  
13 Opera hero  
14 Incines  
15 Help with the dishes  
16 Mangle  
17 Central  
18 European  
19 Soft drinks  
20 Young animal  
24 States  
25 Son of Seth  
26 Clumey one  
27 Kind of box  
28 Does a  
30 Present  
31 Dilly  
32 Vortex  
34 Assets  
35 Highlander  
36 Baischids  
40 Belgande natives  
41 Initiate  
42 Ser. gentlemen  
43 Samsat  
44 Of few words  
45 Cut  
46 Hajde  
47 Indian tourist city  
48 Far, pref.  
49 Over again  
50 Better's concern  
52 Those with power  
53 Japanese drama  
54 Sort of suff.

## Financial Markets

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close Dec 6/1/93	Tokyo Close Dec 7/1/93
Sterling Pound	1.5423	1.5446
Deutsche Mark	1.6370	1.6335
Swiss Franc	1.4885	1.4888
French Franc	5.5665	5.5575**
Japanese Yen	125.16	125.09
European Currency Unit	1.1975	1.2005**

1200 Per STD  
\*\* European Opening at 8:00 a.m. GMT

Source: Reuters

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	5.25	3.31	3.56	3.87
Sterling Pound	7.00	6.93	6.68	6.56
Deutsche Mark	8.68	8.50	8.06	7.43
Swiss Franc	5.56	5.56	5.37	5.12
French Franc	12.50	12.00	10.50	9.25
Japanese Yen	3.75	3.65	3.56	3.53
European Currency Unit	10.37	10.25	10.00	8.95

Precious Metals			Date: 7/1/93		
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm <sup>o</sup>	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	330.45	6.45	Silver	3.71	.080

Source: Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.689	0.691
Sterling Pound	1.0625	1.0678
Deutsche Mark	0.4216	0.4257
Swiss Franc	0.4687	0.4650
French Franc	0.1238	0.1244
Japanese Yen	0.5503	0.5531
Dutch Guilder	0.3753	0.3772
Swedish Krona	0.0950	0.0955
Italian Lira	0.0452	0.0454
Belgian Franc	0.0050	0.0050

Currency	Bid	Offer
Baharal Dinar	1.7980	1.8170
Lebanese Lira	0.036265	0.036365
Saudi Riyal	0.1633	0.1645
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2550	2.2550
Omani Riyal	0.1867	0.1880
Egyptian Pound	0.2000	0.2150
Omani Riyal	1.7570	1.7720
UAE Dirham	0.1867	0.1880
Greek Drachma	0.3166	0.3246
Cypriot Pound	1.4125	1.4335

CAB Indices for Amman Financial Market:

Index	5/1/93	Close	6/1/93	Close
All-Share	179.77		179.52	
Banking Sector	129.40		129.24	
Insurance Sector	196.08		196.70	
Industry Sector	247.49		246.22	
Services Sector	287.42		252.91	

December 31, 1992 = 100

## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London Foreign Exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One U.S. dollar	1.2835/40	Canadian dollar	1.6468/78
	1.8470/90	Deutsche marks	1.8470/90
	1.5033/38	Dutch guilders	33.80/84
	5.6040/90	Swiss francs	1515/1522
	125.38/43	French francs	7.4365/4657
	7.4365/4657	Italian lire	7.0700/800
	6.3650/750	Japanese yen	1.5250/800
One sterling	1.5250/800	Swedish crowns	329.00/329.50
One ounce of gold	329.00/329.50	Norwegian crowns	
		Danish crowns	

## California faces \$2.5 billion cash shortage by May

SACRAMENTO, California (R) — Revenue growth in California, America's richest state, is running behind projections and it is likely to face a cash shortage of \$2.5 billion by mid-May, a government official said Thursday.

State Controller Gray Davis said revenue from income tax, sales tax and bank and corporation tax in the first half of the current fiscal year, which ends June 30, totalled \$17.37 billion, up 4.5 per cent from the same period last year.

At the current rate, state revenues for the year will fall significantly short of the eight per cent revenue growth projected by Governor Pete Wilson's administration in the budget.

Current revenue trends indicated a cash shortage of \$2.5 billion in mid-May, he added.

"The meagre revenue growth indicates California is still mired in recession. Hopefully, a national recovery will help pull California out of this economic quagmire," Mr. Davis said.

Despite signs of economic recovery in the rest of the nation, California's economy remains moribund with unemployment of more than 10 per cent.

## JORDAN FINANCIAL MARKET

HOUSING BANK OFFICE AMMAN - JORDAN

TELEPHONE: 665170 / 665170

ORGANIZED MARKET TRADING ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIOD (02/01/1993 - 04/01/1993)

COMPANY'S NAME

TRADING VOLUME

BUY PRICE

OFFER PRICE

CLASING PRICE

CLASING PRICE

CLASING PRICE

CLASING PRICE

CLASING PRICE

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## Saudi Arabia expects lower deficit despite higher spending this year

DUBAI (R) — Saudi Arabia expects its budget deficit to fall slightly this year despite plans for higher spending, much of it on development and government subsidies.

Budget figures estimated the 1993 deficit at 27.8 billion riyals (\$7.4 billion), 7.5 per cent down on the previous year. Spending was up nine per cent at 196.95 billion riyals (\$52.5 billion).

The finance ministry was authorised to borrow to cover the projected deficit, as it did in 1992. Bankers in the kingdom said the ministry was assumed to have covered the whole of the 30 billion riyal (\$8 billion) deficit for 1992 through domestic borrowing, mainly using instruments such as treasury bills and bonds.

Saudi Arabia had its first sovereign foreign loan in 1991 when it borrowed \$4.5 billion, but it was not considering more borrowings abroad, the bankers said.

They said the main reason was that the domestic markets, including the banking system, were flush with cash and there was no pressing need to go abroad. The state's foreign borrowing had also been unpopular with traditional Muslims who object to the payment of interest as usury, which is banned in Islam.

After the budget was approved by the Saudi cabinet, King Fahd said the government's priority was economic development and raising living standards in the kingdom.

This was reflected in substantially higher allocations for education, health, social welfare and government projects.

The budget also includes specific allocations for government subsidies, put at 9.2 billion riyals (\$2.5 billion). The budget statement said 1993 costs would be 1.2 billion (\$320 million) higher after

King Fahd's decision last month to raise social security payments. The bankers said the Saudi economy was largely government driven and the increased spending would pump more money into the economy and create new jobs and investment opportunities.

The king said he hoped "stability will be maintained in this region to allow each state to focus on building its economic and its people's prosperity."

But he said the kingdom had to improve its defences because of conditions in the region. This was reflected in a 13.7 per cent increase in military and security allocations to 61.6 billion riyals (\$16.4 billion), almost a third of total spending.

The main interest in last year's budget was its revelation that Saudi Arabia spent \$50 billion to help finance the Gulf war to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi control in 1990 and 1991.

Bankers and diplomats in the kingdom said an additional \$5 or \$6 billion was paid early in 1992 to cover the balance of Saudi commitments to the United States and the other Gulf war allies. No more payments were due.

The bankers said this meant the 1993 deficit was effectively higher than last year's, which financed once-off Gulf war payments.

They also said government spending was in effect higher than shown in the budget because public sector companies, which used to be financed directly by the government, had been allowed to borrow in their own name.

Six such loans were reported in 1992, totalling some \$4.3 billion. All but one, a \$2 billion international loan for oil producing giant Saudi Aramco, were loans raised locally.

## Philippines reduces poverty by 15%

MANILA (R) — Millions of Filipinos have risen above the official poverty line following a government decision to cut goods like cigarettes and alcohol from those it considers essential for life, officials have said.

By redefining the needs of the average family of six, the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) said it had cut the percentage of families considered poverty-stricken from 55.8 to 40.7 per cent.

The fast-growing Philippine population of about 62 million has long been one of the poorest in Asia.

The new poverty line is set at 3,675 pesos (\$145) per family per month at 1991 prices, NEDA said. That is enough, it believes, to cover basic food, clothing and footwear, housing, medical care, basic education and transport.

Under the old definition, families were considered to be living in poverty if they earned less than 4,935 pesos (\$195) a month.

President Fidel Ramos pledged Thursday to liberalise the economy further and predicted 1993 would be a year of economic growth for the Philippines.

He said reforms he had launched since taking office in June had improved the climate for trade and investment, and he forecast economic growth of 4.5 per cent this year.

"We see a positive turnaround in our economic growth. In real terms, much of its impact on the day-to-day lives of our people may only be felt in the coming years, but we are steadily getting there," Mr. Ramos said.

The economy was flat in 1991, and local production was in a slump through the third quarter of 1992.

The gross national product would have declined in the first nine months of last year if not for remittances from Filipino workers abroad.

From further exploration in the United States. As a result, many U.S. companies are exploring for oil abroad, for example in the former Soviet Union, he noted.

"With the sharp declines in production in the United States and the former Soviet Union, this means that the world will become more reliant upon the Middle East again," Mr. Yergin said.

Mr. Yergin said a central focus of the Clinton administration will be to ensure the economic survival of the former Soviet Union — particularly Russia — through oil and gas development with the help of American technology.

Output of oil and gas in the former Soviet Union is down almost 30 per cent from 1988.

"U.S. international energy policies can encourage the successful participation of U.S. companies in the revival of the oil and gas energy industries — in everything from exploration and production, to the building of new pipelines, to more efficient consumption, to environmental rehabilitation — thus preserving more for export," he said.

Mr. Yergin said the incoming Clinton administration is also likely to seek a gasoline tax hike to help reduce the budget deficit. He estimated a 15-cent increase in the tax would cost the average motorist about \$75 a year and bring in about \$15,000 million.

## Japan royal wedding seen boosting economy

TOKYO (R) — The wedding of Japan's Crown Prince Naruhito later this year will inspire spending of more than \$26 billion and increase gross national product (GNP) by nearly one per cent, a private think tank reported Friday.

The NLI research institute said the royal wedding, expected in May, would cause a marriage boom, spur private consumption and housing investment and even support stock prices.

Crown Prince Naruhito is to marry career diplomat Masako Owada.

NLI estimated the engagement would create fresh consumption worth 3.3 trillion yen (26.4 billion) and push up GNP by 0.8 per cent in the year starting April 1.

Sectors expected to benefit are paper firms (from printing special books and magazines), retail (from gifts and copycat marriages), and electronics (because consumers will want to buy new televisions and VCRs to follow the wedding).

The calculation is based on estimation that the 1959 marriage of Akihito, Naruhito's father and now the emperor, increased consumer spending by 1.4 per cent.

The possible issue of gold coins to mark the wedding would increase gold imports and help slash Japan's swelling trade surplus, the report said.

It said that, to maximise the impact of the royal wedding on the faltering economy, the government must cut interest rates, and income tax and increase public work spending.

Japan's most powerful business lobby for the first time targeted the ruling party and corrupt politicians as among the biggest problems facing the country, in an annual report.

Keidanren, or the Federation of Economic Organisations, unveiled an "action guide" for 1993 urging the ruling party to initiate political reform and calling on corporations to declare all the donations they direct to politicians.

"The reform of politics will be the key change around which everything in Japan will revolve," the Keidanren report said.

"We must change post-war

## UAE forms banking supervisory committee

DUBAI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has announced plans to restructure its central bank, creating a new department to tighten supervision of the banking sector.

The central bank said in a statement it was setting up a committee to regulate the country's banks and "make decisions over important issues."

It gave no further details about the permanent banking supervisory committee but said the decision was taken to keep up with developments in banking supervision.

The restructuring also includes merging accounting, credit, and other departments and expanding the current banking supervision department to include examination of banks.

The UAE, which has 19 local banks and 28 foreign units, last November sent a central bank representative to an Arab Monetary Fund seminar on banking supervision conducted by the Basle-based Bank for International Settlements (BIS).

The statement said the central bank's board of directors passed the restructuring resolution last December 19.

The decision was taken about one month after the UAE emirate of Sharjah agreed to a \$490 million rescheduling deal to settle long-standing debts to four troubled domestic banks.

"Practical experience over the past years has shown the need to reexamine...to accommodate requirements of the bank's functioning...and keep up with developments in banking supervision," the statement said.

Arab League countries have agreed to raise the capital adequacy ratios of their banks to meet standards set by the BIS which will affect their ability to borrow abroad.

## DAJANI JEWELLERS

WORLD

Rio de Janeiro

Carnaval

## With no faith in Geneva talks, Bosnians fight on

**SARAJEVO (R)** — Amid growing pessimism over the outcome of next Sunday's resumed peace talks in Geneva, Bosnia's combatants Friday clashed in many parts of the republic.

Bosnian radio reported a rising tempo of fighting in Sarajevo, with intense mortar, machine gun and small arms fire in the early hours which was ended by heavy fog across the city.

United Nations observers said there had been activity overnight in the suburbs of Ilidza, Butmir, Trbevic and Azici and in the city centre, and increased troop movements in a serb-controlled area near Zuc Hill, a northern strategic point captured by the Muslim's last month.

But most fighting was outside the besieged capital.

The Bosnian Serb news agency (SRNA) reported fierce fighting in northeastern Bosnia, with Muslim artillery and infantry attacks in the region of Lopare and south of Brcko and near mount Majevica.

SRNA said there had been an all-out Muslim attack on Serbian positions east of Tuzla Thursday.

Belgrade-based Tanjug news agency added that there had been heavy exchanges to the west in Herzegovina.

Quoting Serbian military sources, it reported a Croat infantry and tank attack on Serbian army positions on region of Popovo Polje, on Thursday night with mortar fire around stolic, and surrounding villages.

Bosnian radio said the Serbs had mortared Bosnian defence lines around Doboj and Tuzla overnight, but Tuzla and nearby Maglaj were now relatively quiet.

with only occasional shelling. The Bosnians also said they had come under attack Friday morning around Vogosca, a strategic Serb-held town north-west of Sarajevo.

None of the reports could be independently confirmed, but they pointed to a pattern of generalised fighting across Bosnia.

A U.N. spokesman said two British convoys had come under mortar fire in central Bosnia on Thursday. Eight mortar rounds landed close to them causing no casualties but some damage to vehicles.

Bosnia's Muslim President Alija Izetbegovic, speaking in New York Thursday, compared Western leaders with their predecessors who appeased Hitler before World War II, speaking bitterly of "an atmosphere of Munich."

He said a map being discussed at talks in Geneva aimed at ending the fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina was unacceptable because it would ratify the results of "ethnic cleansing" and would prevent refugees from going back to their homes.

The map would divide Bosnia into 10 regions — five of them clearly under Serb control.

The Serbs have not agreed to the plan either, and the thrust of United Nations and European Community efforts has been to persuade them to do so, which would increase pressure on the Muslim-led Sarajevo government to accept it too.

But the Muslims, who have fought back with increasing success in recent weeks, seem far from ready to compromise.



**RUSSIAN FESTIVITIES:** Dancers in traditional Russian dress perform at the Red Square in Moscow as part of Russian Orthodox celebrations

late Thursday. The brightly-coloured, two-hour show of song and dance was watched by Muscovites of all ages (AFP photo)

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

### California temblors more frequent

**WASHINGTON (R)** — The southern section of California San Andreas Fault is overdue for a major earth-rupturing temblor, based on new evidence that major quakes have been more frequent than previously thought. Scientists with the U.S. Geological Survey and the University of Oregon said they have established that major earthquakes have occurred in a section of Southern California's San Andreas Fault northeast of Los Angeles every 100 years, not every 132 years, as earlier studies had shown. An earthquake on the magnitude of 7.0 on the Richter scale is almost certain in the next 30 years, and maybe sooner, U.S. Geological Survey scientist Thomas Fumal said.

### Man held in murder of Japanese

**JOHANNESBURG (R)** — Police in South Africa's Transkei trial homeland have arrested a man in connection with the murder of a Japanese woman schoolteacher last Sunday. The South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) reported Friday. Teacher Yukiko Yoshimura, 34, was bludgeoned to death with an iron bar on a beach on South Africa's Indian Ocean coast. Her beaten and stabbed body was found Monday and her watch and handbag were missing. SABC quoted Transkeian police as saying they believed rape and robbery were the motive for the attack. Ms. Yoshimura had taught at the Japanese school in Johannesburg for three years and had been due to return home in March.

### 3 arrested in racial attack

**TAMPA, Florida (R)** — Three white men have been charged with setting a black man on fire as they called him a "nigger" in a vicious New Year's Day racial attack. Hillsborough County (Tampa) made the arrests Wednesday night. The victim, Christopher Wilson, 31, of Brooklyn, New York, was still in serious condition in hospital Thursday, recuperating from skin graft surgery. The burns covered nearly 40 per cent of his body. Police said two of the men forced their way into Mr. Wilson's Cadillac as he was buying a newspaper, made him drive to a remote location and robbed him. A third man followed in a van and then all three doused Mr. Wilson with gasoline and set him afire. Police said the assailants repeatedly called Mr. Wilson a "nigger," and said, "we've got one we've got another one to go." They said they found a scrap of paper at the scene that said, "One less nigger, one more to go, KKK." Mark Kohut, 26, Jeff Pellet, 17 and Charles Rourke, 33, were arrested after a tip led police to Mr. Pellet and he in turn incriminated the others. All three are from central Florida.

### Anti-apartheid campaigner buried

**JOHANNESBURG (R)** — Hundreds of mourners singing freedom songs crowded into a Johannesburg cathedral Thursday for the funeral of anti-apartheid campaigner Helen Joseph. Luminaries of the South African left streamed past a coffin covered with yellow flowers and an African National Congress (ANC) flag to pay their last respects to Ms. Joseph, 87, who died on Christmas day after a stroke on Dec. 12. Members of the ANC Women's League flanked the coffin, fists in the air, as the congregation sang and danced the Toyi-Toyi, the defiant jogging dance of the anti-apartheid movement. Speakers including ANC President Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize laureate, paid homage to Ms. Joseph's three decades of struggle against apartheid.

### Americans drink less

**ATLANTA (AP)** — The death rate from chronic liver disease is dropping as Americans reduce their alcohol consumption, federal health authorities

said Thursday. Liver disease remained the nation's ninth leading cause of death, even though it is largely preventable, the centres for disease control and prevention said. But "the recent decline in alcohol consumption had a major, major effect on the mortality and hospitalisation from chronic liver disease," said Jim Mendlein, an epidemiologist. From 1980 through 1989, the death rate from chronic liver disease decreased 23 per cent, from 13.5 per 100,000 people to 10.40. The rate of hospitalisations for the disease dropped 44 per cent, from 50.6 to 28.2. During the period, alcohol consumption reached its lowest rate since 1968, said Dr. Mary Dufour, epidemiology chief at the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Alcohol is the leading cause of chronic liver disease, which includes cirrhosis, where the liver hardens to the point that it no longer functions.

### Manila 'surprised' by Marcos demand

**MANILA (R)** — The government said Thursday Imelda Marcos's surprise demand for a Philippine burial for her late husband should not derail agreement on the return to the country of millions of dollars kept by the Marcoses abroad. "I was taken by surprise," Solicitor-General Raul Goco said, reacting to the former first lady's statement on Wednesday that any deal on the Marcos money must include agreement on bringing home the body of late President Ferdinand Marcos. Mr. Goco told reporters the issue of a Marcos burial was separate from the negotiations over the Marcos money and Mrs. Marcos had not raised the matter in the previous talks. "It should not come in here to derail the transfer (of the money)," he said. He said scheduled to meet Mrs. Marcos to discuss a draft agreement on the transfer to Philippine banks of \$356 million the government says the Marcoses stashed away in Switzerland. Under the proposed deal, the money will be held in escrow until the courts decide whose it is.

### Yeltsin replaces staff chief

**MOSCOW (R)** — Russian President Boris Yeltsin has appointed a new head of the presidential staff, dropping his former close colleague Yuri Petrov, ITAR-TASS news agency said. TASS, quoting a source close to Mr. Yeltsin, said Mr. Petrov had been replaced by Sergei Filatov, first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, the standing parliament. The agency said Mr. Petrov would take over as head of a Russian state commission investigating the shooting down of a South Korean Airliner over the Soviet Far East in September 1983. At first glance, the departure of Mr. Petrov appeared to be a victory for Parliamentary Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov, Mr. Yeltsin's political arch-rival, with whom Mr. Petrov is on poor terms.

### Plutonium captain defends secrecy

**TOKYO (R)** — The captain of the Japanese patrol ship that accompanied a shipment of plutonium from France to Japan has defended Tokyo's policy of secrecy despite the international criticism that it sparked. "From the standpoint of my mission, which was to guard the ship, I believe it is best to maintain secrecy," Yoshiaki Hosono, commanding officer of the patrol vessel Shikishima, told reporters. Captain Shikishima accompanied the freighter Akatsuki Maru, which carried 1.7 tonnes of plutonium, on its 35,000 kilometre voyage which began in Cherbourg, France, and ended in Tokai, Japan, on Tuesday. Greenpeace tracked the route of the plutonium shipment most of the way, saying the Japanese government's plan was fraught with dangers. But Capt. Hosono said the publicity given by the environmentalist group had, if anything, increased the dangers. Japan's secrecy about the path the ship would follow and a lack of official explanations about the dangers added considerably to anxiety and protest in countries which were along the possible route.

## Mandela seeks polls this year in S. Africa

**JOHANNESBURG (R)** — African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela said Friday a general election must be held this year to bring non-racial democracy to South Africa and end centuries of white rule.

Mr. Mandela, speaking at a Johannesburg news conference on the 81st anniversary of the ANC, said South Africa was "standing at the gateway to the future."

"1993 is destined to be the year when we bring to an end the exclusive exercise of political power by the white minority. At last, we shall, set ourselves on the path to democratic rule."

The ANC and president F.W. de Klerk's reformist government are due to resume democracy talks in February.

"Today all of us, both culprit and victim, are reaping the whirlwind of the destructive seeds apartheid sowed," Mr. Mandela declared.

He said elections would produce a constituent assembly which would also function as a democratic and non-racial interim parliament and an interim government of national unity.

Mr. Mandela said South Africa had been torn apart by hatred and division in "a society which imprisoned both the oppressed and the oppressor."

He said the ANC's optimism for 1993 rested on the fact that mass action, public exposures,

international pressure and the espousal of democratic rule were the basis for its advances.

"We are under no illusion that this transition to democracy will be plain sailing. We are faced with a regime which seeks to preserve its privileges and assure its power."

Commenting in part on the involvement of elements within the South African forces in attempts to undermine the ANC through a dirty-tricks campaign, he said:

"The terrorism, destabilisation and repression that emanates from the security forces, and state agencies, including the various administrations in different parts of South Africa, must be rooted out without any equivocation and delay."

As Mr. Mandela spoke, two days of talks between the government and a delegation from the Concerned South Africans Group (COSAG) was getting under way.

COSAG was set up last September by the leaders of the nominally independent homelands of KwaZulu, Ciskei and Bophuthatswana, the white right-wing Conservative Party (CP) and the Afrikaner Volksunie, a CP splinter group.

They accused the government and the ANC, which wants the homelands reincorporated into South Africa, of reaching secret agreements to impose on other parties and groups.

## UNTAC chief pleased with Sihanouk meeting

**PEKING (R)** — The head of the United Nations' Cambodia peacekeeping operation said he had a good meeting with Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Peking Friday.

But Yasushi Akashi declined to say if the visit had persuaded the prince to cooperate again with the U.N.'s work.

"I had a very fruitful and useful meeting," Mr. Akashi said by telephone. He said the visit lasted about two hours.

Mr. Akashi, who heads the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), said he would not comment further until he returned to Phnom Penh Saturday.

An official at Prince Sihanouk's Peking residence declined to characterise the meeting.

Prince Sihanouk, Cambodia's mercurial head of state, said this week he was stopping all coop-

eration with UNTAC because it had failed to halt growing political violence.

In Phnom Penh UNTAC has announced broad new legislation to allow criminal prosecution of human rights violators.

"The directive empowers UNTAC to indict individuals and to prosecute the cases using the legal system of the appropriate existing administrative structure," spokesman Eric Falt told reporters.

The new laws signed by Mr. Akashi would go into effect within the next few days, Mr. Falt said.

Under the directive, UNTAC will review investigations of politically motivated acts of violence, ethnic killings or any other crime where justice has not been done.

Mr. Falt said that if necessary, force would be used to apprehend offenders.

## Philippine kidnap attempt turns into bloodbath

**QUEZON CITY, Philippines (R)** — An attempt to kidnap a teenage girl turned into a bloodbath Thursday when Philippine police shot dead the Filipino-Chinese victim and four of her abductors on one of Manila's busiest roads.

Fifteen-year-old Charlene Sy, daughter of a wealthy garment manufacturer, was shot in the head when an anti-kidnap task force ambushed a convoy of cars and riddled one vehicle with bullets, police said.

Four kidnappers holding their victim in a white saloon car died, two in a second car were wounded and captured but at least two other vehicles and a motorcycle escaped in the morning rush hour. One policeman and a bystander were also wounded.

Ms. Sy had been snatched by about 20 armed men who ambushed the car taking her to a Chinese high school.

"We had no choice but to open fire," declared Police Commander Colonel Leo Gara, who said his men had kept the kidnap gang under surveillance for several weeks.

"The first car shot at us. We were not really very sure they had picked up their victim. We didn't

know their victim was inside."

He said his men had picked up radio transmissions between gang members and knew they intended to snatch a victim.

Police did not know the girl had already been snatched when they blocked Manila's EDSA ring road in the capital's Quezon City district and ambushed the convoy.

"Why did the police have to shoot?" the girl's weeping father, Francisco Sy, said after seeing her bloody corpse in a funeral home where she was brought with those of her kidnappers.

"My poor girl. Why did they have to drag her into this?" One of the family kicked out in anger at the body of one of the kidnappers as others embraced the girl's corpse and wailed: "Why? Why?"

It was the bloodiest kidnap incident since September, when a gang tortured and killed two Chinese youths after their families had paid a \$60,000 ransom. Dozens of people were kidnapped last year as crime gangs zeroed in on wealthy business families from the secretive Chinese-Filipino community.

## COLUMN

### Japanese men do not want to retire

**TOKYO (R)** — Many Japanese men say they want to work past 60 to keep fit and earn money, according to a survey by the Japanese Trade Union Confederation (Rengo), published Friday. The poll found that 49.4 per cent of men said they wanted to continue working past the age of 60 while 21.9 per cent of the women surveyed said they wanted to work past 60, the retirement age for 71.4 per cent of Japanese companies. The survey, conducted in August and September last year, covered 22,453 Rengo union members, 85 per cent of them men, with an average age of 36. Most of the women polled were still young and at an age when it was difficult for them to think so far ahead, said a Rengo official responsible for the survey. Many men said they needed to work to continue earning money and others said they wanted to work to remain healthy.

### Energy drink for cats and dogs

**STRASBOURG (AP)** — A French brewery is using Japan as the test market for its latest product — a no-alcohol, vitamin-enriched beverage for dogs and cats. Marc Arbogast, technical director for the Pecher Brewery outside Strasbourg, told journalists the new drink was made primarily from ingredients left over after the beer-making process, then enriched with vitamins and mineral salts. He said Japan was selected as the first market because of relatively high purchasing power of consumers there and the large pet population.

### Probe launched into computer game risks

**LONDON (R)** — Britain has launched an inquiry into reports that children may suffer epileptic fits from playing computer games on television screens. The government move Thursday followed newspaper reports that two boys in Cardiff had fits while playing computer games. They had no background of epilepsy. Simon Carde, 12, was taken to hospital frothing at the mouth after playing for only about half an hour with a computer game he received for Christmas. His mother said: "All he can remember is not being able to see while he was playing the game. Then he saw coloured lights in front of his eyes before passing out."

### Pacifist charged with damaging aircraft

**LONDON (R)** — A peace campaigner inspired by a biblical reference to beating swords into ploughshares used a hammer to batter costly missile and aircraft parts in a British factory, police and disarmament activists said. Police said Chris Cole, 29, was charged Thursday with causing almost £500,000 of damage. Mr. Cole crept into a British Aerospace plc (BAE) plant at Stevenage, north of London, before dawn Wednesday. A statement issued by a campaign group called British Aerospace Ploughshares said he was a Christian motivated by the Biblical verse "They shall beat their swords into ploughshares."

### Bid at test-tube panda birth fails

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — National zoo officials are investigating why they were unable to fertilise successfully the eggs of the zoo's female giant panda, Ling-ling, who died of heart failure last week. Officials had extracted about 185 eggs from the giant panda's body after her death and tried to fertilise some with sperm from the zoo's male panda, Hsing-Hsing. The intent was to create an embryo that could be implanted into a surrogate mother panda. "It's not going to take," said zoo spokesman Bob Hoage. "I don't think they quite know why." Zoo scientists said they knew their chances of success were small, but plan to study the eggs further.

### Jailhouse chess

**MOSCOW (AP)** — Valentin Pavlov, a former Soviet prime minister jailed on charges of plotting the August 1991 coup, is pondering his defence — in a chess match with ex-world champion Boris Spassky. Mr. Pavlov faces a possible death sentence for his part in the failed putsch against then-Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. While in jail, awaiting trial, he has been matching wits with Mr. Spassky by correspondence, the newspaper Moskovskaya pravda reported. The game apparently began after Mr. Spassky lost a \$5 million match with U.S. chess expert Bobby Fischer in Yugoslavia.

## Heavy fighting reported in central Angola areas

**LUANDA (R)** — Fighting between government troops and rebels raged on in Angola's central provincial capital of Cuito Friday, with many dead and wounded lying untended in the streets, state radio reported.

The Angolan army said Thursday it had captured thousands of fighters of the rebel National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) in a week-long offensive and the rebels had asked for a ceasefire.

The cabinet was also meeting Friday and sources said ministers were likely to discuss declaring a state of emergency. They said this might even extend to outlawing UNITA, but such measures would require parliamentary approval and were not likely before next week.

Diplomatic sources said the government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos wanted to "keep things legal and above board" in its battle with UNITA, headed by Jonas Savimbi.

State radio reported heavy casualties in the battle for Cuito, capital of central Bie province, and said UNITA reinforcements were heading for the town. Many wounded lacked medical attention and there was no power in the town.

Armed Forces Chief of Staff

General Joao de Matos told a news conference Thursday UNITA had suggested a meeting at its Huambo base between him and its military chief, General Demostenes Chilinguita, to discuss a ceasefire.

"Taking into account the present situation, the meeting will take place, but not in Huambo," he said.

Diplomats said the meeting had been suggested by Mr. Savimbi.

Observers in Luanda were sceptical discussions between UNITA and the government would go ahead, despite U.S. and U.N. pressure for the two sides to talk rather than fight.

Gen. De Matos said that if the rebels did not halt their operations, the army would "use all of its might against UNITA in every corner of the country."

Diplomats said fighting was centred on Bie and Benguela provinces where UNITA was strong.

Gen. De Matos told the news conference the fighting was likely to get more severe in the coming hours and days.

Diplomats said at least 1,000 people had been killed in fighting around the city of Benguela and government forces had captured a string of towns and cities.

## Sinn Fein says Clinton could help Ulster peace

**BELFAST (R)** — The leader of the Irish Republican Army's (IRA) political wing says the election of Bill Clinton as U.S. president could help to break the deadlock in the Northern Ireland conflict.

Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams, reviewing the chances for peace in one of the world's longest-running guerrilla conflicts, also said he believed Britain would eventually talk to his revolutionary party.

"Now it is a matter of how and when we talk and the sooner the better," he told Reuters in an interview at Sinn Fein's heavily-fortified Belfast offices Thursday night.

He was also optimistic the imminent accession to power of a new Irish coalition government in Dublin next week could boost peace prospects.

"A stable government for three to four years would allow Dublin to move forward," he said.

Mr. Adams was most strikingly upbeat in his hopes for the new Clinton administration.

"(British Prime Minister John) Major went to the States. Clinton didn't meet him. Can you imagine that happening with Thatcher in the Reagan and Bush administrations? There is a potential for a different attitude," he said.

During his election campaign, Mr. Clinton suggested sending a peace envoy to Northern Ireland, where more than 3,000 people

have been killed in a guerrilla war by the IRA aimed at ending British rule.

"All we would expect the U.S. administration to do was to ask the British to conduct their affairs with basic democratic principles," Mr. Adams said.

"I would expect the stated foreign policy of the United States in relation to democratic rights and in relation to range of civil liberties would be a focus."

He added: "The British are sensitive to bad publicity."

Mr. Adams said Republican Peter King had invited him to attend this month's swearing-in of the U.S. Congress but he decided not to apply for a U.S. visa.

"I have a book coming out in New York in March. I may apply to go there then," he said. All his previous visa applications have been turned down.

Britain's Northern Ireland Minister Sir Patrick Mayhew has put out tentative peace feelers to the Republican movement, promising that security would be dramatically scaled down in Northern Ireland if the IRA halted its campaign of violence.

Mr. Mayhew said troops would be taken off the streets of the war-weary province and Britain had no objection to a united Ireland as long as it was achieved by consent.

Without indicating any major shift in his position, Mr. Adams said: "We know they (the British) are going to leave and we are going to keep at it until they do."

## New study strengthens 'big bang' theory, astronomers say

By Paul Reecer

**The Associated Press**  
**PHOENIX** — The "big bang" passed its toughest test yet, as measurements of primordial temperatures gives strong new evidence that the universe began some 15 billion years ago with the most colossal explosion ever.

Astronomer John C. Mather said Thursday that precise measurements by the cosmic background explorer satellite of the remnant energy from the big bang gives readings that are exactly as the theory predicted.

"The big bang is still a winner," Mr. Mather said at a news conference at a national meetings of the American Astronomical Society.

The big bang theory, first proposed in the 1920s, posits that all matter in the universe was once compressed into an exceedingly small and superheated centre which exploded, sending energy and particles outward uniformly in all directions. At the moment of the explosion, temperatures would have been trillions and trillions of degrees and have been cooling ever since.

If the theory is correct, astronomers expected an even distribution of temperatures just fractionally above absolute zero to still exist in the universe as an after glow from the explosion.

Mr. Mather said that a Cobe instrument called the far infrared absolute spectrophotometer has now taken hundreds of millions of measurements across the full sky and has determined that the primordial temperatures are uniformly distributed. He said the uniform temperature left from

the big bang is 2.726 degrees above absolute zero — or about minus 456.9 degrees Fahrenheit.

Since the average thermal radiation is the same in all directions of the universe, Mr. Mather said, it had to come from one source.

"The big bang is still the simplest explanation we have," he said.

Craig Hogan, a University of Washington astronomer, said the new research "is verifying the textbooks" by providing powerful evidence for the theory.

Mr. Hogan said the Cobe results exactly match the theoretical curve of temperature energy decay that would be expected in the big bang theory.

Some Cobe measurements were released in 1990, but Mr.

Mather said those were preliminary results. The research announced Thursday were 30 times more precise and leaves little room other theories, he said.

The new data, he said, measures temperature decay back to a point just one year after the big bang. Beyond that, no measurements now are possible.

The big bang theory originated with the findings in 1929 by astronomer Edwin Hubble that all galaxies were moving away from each other at a uniform rate, with those farthest away moving the fastest. This is exactly what would occur in an explosion.

Important support for the idea came in 1965 when Bell Laboratory scientists discovered the cosmic background radiation, and unexplained

source of energy that seemed to be distributed throughout the universe.

This background energy could not be measured precisely until the launch in 1989 of the Cobe satellite.

Cobe also has overcome one of the arguments against the big bang: If energy moved evenly and smoothly in all directions, how did the clumps of matter that came to be stars and galaxies come into existence?

Measurements released by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Cobe team last April showed that there were faint ripples, measured in millionths of a degree, in the background temperatures. It is believed these ripples became the gravitational eddies that were the seeds of stellar objects.